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Aime at an Up-shot

INFANT BAPTISME
BY THE GOOD WILL

OF CHRIST,

A S

Priest, Prophet and King, To fill the earth with his Glory.

By Henry Whiftler, Bac. Theol.

REVEL. VI. VERSE II.

He that sate on the white horse had a bow holy, swift speed of mercy for small and great.



LONDON,

Printed by W. Wilson, for Thomas Paybody, dwelling in Queenes Head Court in Pater Noster Row, and are to be sold by Thomas Underhill at the Anchor and Bible in Pauls Church-yard, neer the little North door, and John Ridley at the Castle in Fleet-street. Anno Dom. 1 653.

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CHRIST the best Archer,
bis sure Covenant the bow,

Infants bis blest arrowes, destined bere below:

WE COURT By bis right hand, in faithfull-Church-prayers of love,

With gratefull bearts, to the Glory of God above:

God of Grace, hope, as well as joy in his Gospell;

At Baptismin Christ, of Infants guard chief Angell.

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To the Glory of God in the Highest, for more abundant blessings, on the High Hoble Generall CROMVVELL His Excellency, Chancellour of Oxford University.

Oward quieting about spiritualls the universallity of the Commonwealth of England, at Baptismall Entrance into the

Kingdom of Christ without Barre against the Young Infantrie, whom in providence, Our Almighty Lord God of Hosts admitteth under his Ensigne, in the Militant Church, upon Fathers faithfull Engagement among Auxiliarie Reserves, in Expectative seasons of Gratious Agency, toward planting unto perpetuity, and defence

The Epistle Dedicatory.

of Gods City: For preservation of whose freedom of holy Right herein, against Advances of Opposit unpitty. That their yet speechless innocence may (after accuration of Eloquence in variety of languages with Libraries) conserve your Excellent Fame unto Posterity, by their Gratitude allaying best, Successours hearts: in Approache sof their kinaly growth, to walke over the Graves, and talke over the Stories of predeceasing age.

With prayers of Christian sincerity for health, and whatsoever is blessed in God's mercifulness,

Very awfully presenteth this observant
Humble Senior, Henry Whistler.

the territory of the second se

South Properties and State of the State of t

The 56: yeare fince his first Studies in Trinity Colledg Oxford.

LORD GOD

OF GLORY
SHINE OUT,

ALL PERFECTIVE

AIDES OF GRACE,

Honourable in Councill, FOR Propagating his GOSPELL.

By supreme Authority of the Commonwealth of England, where Truth hath freedom at the doore,

OF.

Equall audience, open in hope for holy Scripturall evidence, in triall of Infants Right, to Baptismall grace, and co-heritance by Christs ordinance:

(after modest enquirie with conscience, under spirit of duties to this humbly supplicating aged Minister of Christ, Henry Whistler.

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Infant-Baptism blessed all the Offices of Christ, our Priest, Prophet, and King.

CHAP. I.

Christ fulfilled what Priests of Levi figured for Baptizing Infants. Number 1. Sanctifying, Number 2. Redeeming, Number 3. Blessing them.

NUMBER I.

Hat all the Tribes of Israel might be Sanctified as one Mysticall Man, the younger of every Family in Sanctification of the first-born from their Infancy, the firstborn in the Levites that appeared for them, the Levites in their High-Priest, their High-Priest in the Sanctification of them Allaby dependance in Truth on Christ the Mediator of the new Covenant; In which we are come to the Church of the firstborn, whose names are written in Heaven. Heb. 12.

Chap. 1. Numb. 2. All the members therefore of the true Church, in that privilege of the first born, were either Sanctified in their Infancy, or did help toward Sanctification of other Infants, or both, with Holy, blessed, indeavours, as themselves had been Sanctified by the help of others, and all in Christ the first-born of the dead, (Revel. 1. 5.) at his Resurrection, for raising us up, Great and Small, (Revel. 20.12.) The vertue of which his Death and Resurrection he convayeth by his Ordinance of Baptism, Sanctifying and Clensing his Church with the washing of water, by his word, (Ephes. 5. 26.) his word of promise, in truth of his own will begetting us, Iames 1.

Number II.

He first-born were to be Redeemed: All from a Moneth old and upward, by the Levites in their stead, appearing before God in the Services of his Sanctuary (figurative of Christ our Temple) interessing Small and Great in the fruits of his Holynesse for sanctification by the workes of Holy Mini-

sters. Numb. chap. 3. 40, 45, 46.

Whether they were redeemed by the Vicarage of a Levite, or (for want of such peculiar help) by a ransome for neighbourly Levites assistance Ordained
of God, It was Geremonious engagement for partaking in the Redemption of Christ, who was made
under the Law to Redeem them that were under
the Law: But Infants were under the Law, to which
they were bound when circumcised, Gal. 5. And
from which they were redeemed by the blood of
Christ, the true Sacrifice and Ransome, figured by
the blood of the young Pigeon or Turtle; Mysticall

uttermost

of love, to preferve, or happily recover the divided Chap. D. unto unity, laid each peece (in Hebrew, each man) Numb. 2. in order one against another (Gen. 15.10.) ready for union of all at last; by the Spirit like a Dove; the Dove not to be divided as others, but by the Sacrificers nail, in so slow oblation to mind, how unarmed, God made him unapt for cruelty; receiving a like ransome from every one numbred (Exod. 30.) that he might pray for them as every one equally redeemed by the blood of Christ, figured by the blood of the Pigeon, young, for the young Children interested in the Sin-offering after Childbirth, whereby the guiltinesse of Adams sinne (as the Publique Trustee for man-kind) originally tainteth Children, as their Sin: Sin needing the Saviour; behold the Saviour at need.

Jehovah (God the Son) entring covenant with Abraham, that he would by sheding blood at his Circumcision be bound to the greater blood-shed at his death: as the promised seed of Abraham, in whom all Nations and Families might be bleffed. He that is Circumcifed, is a debtor to do the whole Law (Gal. 5) but Christ chiefly (Gal. 4) made under the Law, that wee might receive the Adoption of Sonnes, and because yee (Galathian-exemplary Gentiles) are Sons, God hath sent the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, the same Spirit of Adoption, calling God Father, as Children of his Covenant in Christ through his blood, which as a Sin-offering he shed at his death, as he was bound in that Covenant of blood, mutually shed at the Circumcisson. His Circumcifion binding him as debtor, in that a Surety to redeem them by the Sin-offering of his Chap. 1. Numb. 2. uttermost blood, and their blood-shed in Circumcision (as the Seal and token of Covenant) binding them bodily to depend on that his Redemption as his Circumcised Covenanters: both small and great, as well of the Gentiles as of the Jewes, Exod. 12. 48, 49. And the stranger upon condition of Circumcising his male-Children, he was accepted with them into the Covenant, or else not.

As for the outward, so for inward Circumcission of the heart, most valued, and chiefly, therefore ordained in the Covenant of God (Deut. Chap 29.10.) Tee stand this day all of you before the Lord your Goa: your Captains, &c. your little ones, your wives, and thy stranger in thy Camp: that thou shouldest enter into Covenant with the Lord thy God, and into his Oath, that the Lord thy God maketh with thee this day: I hat he may Stablish thee to day to be a people unto himself, and that he may be unto thee a God, as he sware unto thy Fathers. Neither with thee onely do I make this Covenant and this Oath; but with him that standeth with us here this day before the Lord our God, and with him that is not here with us this day

A Rule of equity for the future also, binding Parents, (Jews, and Centiles) to engage their young Children under Covenant with God; and in that Joynture with the Little Ones the Lord God addeth his promise to circumcise their hearts, and

the hearts of their Seed. Deut. Chap. 30. 6.

If any would restrain the Goodness of God herein onely to the Secret ones of Gods eternall preelection.

The word of Moses may prevail at the end of the twenty ninth of Deut. [secret things to the

Lord

Lord our God: but those things which are revealed, unto Chap. I. us and our Children for ever, and that at the end of Numb. 2. the 30th Chap. [I call Heaven and Earth to Record this day against you—I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: Therefore choose life, that both thou and thy Seed may live.

In awfull hope of Gods affistance under his Divine eternall providence, it is his Servants humble duty to choose the good proposed with promise of a blessing, and to abstain from evill in fear of the

curse threatned.

This duty bindeth Parents to choose good for themselves and for their Ghildren, even their seed, to include them at the lowest foundation of blessing under the Covenant of God.

Thou and thy Children shall obey with all thyheart, Deut. chap. 30.2. thy heart obeyeth for them, and chooseth good for them, and deriveth the bles-

fing unto them.

Yes stand this day all of you before the Lord your God — your little ones — that thou shouldest enter into Covenant with the Lord thy God, and into his Oath which the Lord thy God maketh with thee this day: that he may establish thee to day for a people unto himself, and that he may be unto thee a God. Remember this Record of Heaven and Earth for litle childrens right by Covenant to live by their fathers choyce of life and bleffing for them amongst the chosen people in this their standing (outward) with their litle ones as the people of God chosen on purpose for the glory of his faithfulness in truth and mercy: Ioshua conducted them every one to the land of promise; a pattern of Christs Kingdome B 3 under

Chap. I. Numb. 2. under his new Covenant of Grace; appertaining unto them as the trnth in Spirit to circumcife their heart, and the heart of their Seed to love God, by vertue of that promise made, Deut. 30. 6. unto them while with their litle ones as Gods people under his Covenant and oath: not onely for that time, but for the future at their returning by repentance, yet still in acknowledged verification of the bleffings and curfings as fet before them in that their standing before God in covenant with their litle ones, and the stranger and his litle ones also with them: in whose favour the solemn Psalm. Deut. 32. hath an express clause inviting the Nations to joyn with that people of God in such holy constitution for young & old, under promise of inward Circumcision, as well as outward, solemnly performed again at entrance into the promised land for renewing the Covenant with God. It is often times called cutting a Covenant, in as much as betokened by cutting, at other times, cutting Beafts, but in this the persons were cut in token of Gods right unto them, and their right unto God the Sonne by covenant of mutuall cutting in their flesh as his, and his fleshas theirs, given in his love unto death, for their redemption.

The Fem was concerned as (in desire) one, in Spirit, Circumcising the heart: which Circumcision of the heart is so acceptable, that thereby the Male becometh as Feminine in grace of marriage union with our Saviour; intended in that Circumcision of heart unto his love, Deut. 30. 6. promised to the Seed (Male and Female as one at the beginning of life) in the heart of their Seed; to be perfected in

Gods

Circumcision of the heart by the Spirit

Gods good time, by his good Spirit, without which Chap. 1. that inward moderation of heart cannot be Numb. 2. wrought; on the contrary, their adversaries the cananites hearts melted, neither was there Spirit in them any more, after the waters of Iordan had yeelded passage unto the faithfull Israelites with their little ones. The wisdom of God the Lord of Hosts hath also recorded there (in the fift Chapter of 70shuab) that all the men of war web came out of Egypt were consumed, according as God had sworn, for distrusting Gods performance of promise about their little ones, except Jostuah & Caleb well-spirited witnesses of Gods truth, in mercy causing their little ones and all born after the departure out of Egypt to be there circumcifed and bleffed into posfession, at that mysticall blest passage through fordan wherethe Israelites and their little ones, and Strangers and their little ones, being conjoyned in Covenant with God, and that Covenant being outwardly sealed by Circumcision, under promise for circumcifing the heart, which must be by the Spirit, there to shew the readiness of the Spirit to be given and to yield the glory to the true giver, at that place, as there was opened the land of promise, the heaven opened, and the holy Ghost came down in likeness of a Dove when at that place Christ did chuse to be baptised among others in ... Fordan, that all the duties of this mystery might bleffedly be conjoined in him and in his grace.

Abraham by Circumcifion, as Jacob by halting, lefned in body, raifed up faith to the better in heart; by the Spirit which Christ ordained for a perpetnall duty by Covenant of the Spirit (holy christiNumb. 2.

an morality) though exchanging the fign of outward Circumcision (in pitty to spare the least drop after his own sufficient bloodshedding) for the water of Baptism, to mind washing and purifying the heart under the new covenant of the Spirit, for Jewes and Gentiles and their little ones, that they might with one mind and one mouth glorifie God, as the bleffed Apostle perswadeth, Rom. Chap. 15. 6. And for fetling this joynt, observe how he there addeth [That Jesus Christ was a Minister of the Circumcision to confirm the promises made unto the Father, and that the Gentiles might glorifie God, as it is written - Rejoyce ye Gentiles with his people-And again Esaias saith, a root of Jesse shall rise to raign over the Gentiles] All which favoreth his little ones interest, if ye note

First, That Christ confirmed the promises made to the Fathers: which comprehended little ones

with them.

Secondly, That the Gentiles were alike com-

prehended with their little ones.

Thirdly, That the places of Scripture here alleged for proof thereof, also teach the little ones; that (at the tenth verse of this fifteenth Chapter to the Romans) being the very clause which God prepared in that solemn Psalm Deut. 32. for invitation of the Nations to joyn with the Israelites, as then with their little ones constituted the people of God by Covenant under his promise, to circumcise their hearts, and that other proof alleged out of Esaias for Christ out of the root of Jesse to reign over the Gentiles as Ensign for their submission.

sion

sion to the Kingdom of God at Baptism, hath ex- Chap. 1. press mention of Sucking Children, to be further Numb. 3. opened in season about Christ as King.

Fourthly, this is all in vertue of the Circumcision in heart by the Spirit whereof Christ is Mi-

nister.

Accordingly behold the spiritual Circumcisi-Num. 3. on of the Gentiles hearts at their Baptism, Colos. chap. 2. 11, 12. In Christ yee are circumcised, and buried with him in Baptism. The Holy Ghost there teaching, that the baptized are circumcifed as it were on purpose to countenance the right of Gentiles (old and young) unto the promised Circumcision of their hearts as appliable unto them at Baptism, the old and young having right in the death and buriall as the redeemed of Christ, by the price of his bloody sacrifice to pacific God towards them. And with his prayers (as incense) appearing before God in the Heaven of Heavens (true high-Priest in the Holie of Holies) presenting the memoriall of his blood-shed, and bearing their memoriall as did Aaron on his shoulders, and on his breast-plate, in love to small and great. Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that dyed, year ather that is risen again: who is at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession forus, Rom. 8. For whom he prayed on Earth, John 17. 26. even for all that shall beleeve on him in any generation at any time unto the worlds end; praying for such as are unborn, the new-born are included also for accomplishment of what by the same Spirit his father David beleeved, Psalm. 115. 12, 13. The Lord will bless the house of Israel, he will bless the House of Aaron, he

Chap. 1. Numb. 3. will bliss them that fear the Lord both small and great. He telleth how he blesseth the house of Israel, in that he blesseth the house Aaron as appointed to bless in his name them that fear the Lord. Deut. 21. 5. The Priests, the Sonnes of Levi, shall comenear, for them hath Jehovah thy God chosen to minister unto him, and to bless in the Name of the Lord, as then they were (the small with the great) when all the Children of Israel were in that well-ordered Army, young and old, the Priests, Aaron and his sons, were appointed to bless them thus, Numb. chap. 6. Jehovah list up his face upon thee and give unto thee peace. And they shall put my name upon the Sons of Israel, and I will bless them

Here is a threefold Relative unto Christ, First, As Aaron and his Sons were all figures of Christ his

Priesthood.

Secondly, For that it was his face in which their blessing was to be fulfilled, 2 Cor. 4. 6. Ephes. 1. 3.

Thirdly, Because his fulfiling of that Benediction (in putting the name of God upon the Children of Israel) was at their Baptism, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Ghost.

CHAP.

CHAP. II. Chap. 2.

Christ a Prophet for teaching Infants Numb. 1.

Baptized. Number 1. The least to bee taught of God. Numb. 2. Mens duty to Seal Infants under Covenant, and afterwards to teach them. Numb. 3. Christ to be like Moses, appliable to Infants Baptized.

Number 1.

Hat express tenour of the new Covenant (Isaiah chap. 54.13. All thy Children shall be taught of the Lord, applied in the Gospell of John chap. 5. 25.) The

hour is comming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voyce of the Sonne of God, and they that heare shall live; which is true both of the dead in body to revive at the last resurrection, and of the dead in Sinne to revive by the sirst resurrection unto the life of grace; of both which Christ affirmeth there, as appeareth of the last resurrection in the words following; but of the first resurrection in the words preceding, Verily, verily, hee shall not come into condemnation (for the future) but is passed from death to life (for the present) and hath everlasting life begun in him, Grace beginning glory, and Glory sinishing grace, every part of everlasting is everlasting: the earnest of the Spirit is an immortall Seed though

G 2

Chap. 2. Numb. 1.

not appearing first in Little ones: yet that Seed hath life begotten by God the Son, that is the All-quickning word, as easily raising the Children by the voices of his fervants (Elias and Elisha figures of him their Lord) as other men were raised by him, as easily giving life of the Spirit as restoring life of the body, whether to young or old; his Allmighty power equally can give life in death to make the dead hear, though their audience be not equall in outward operation; the act of-creation is the same in vertue of life to the one in the Seed and root, to the other in the fruit, of. hearing and beleeving. Jeremian cap. 31. 33, 34. This is the Covnenat that I will make in those dayes, they shall all know me from the least unto the greatest. Admire the method of this Doctor almighty, from the least to the greatest, indefinitely from the least, for the manner dispute not with God, Who to pose Job chap. 38. asked, Hast thou entred into the Springs of the Sea? Hast thou walked in the Search of the deep?

Gods mercies unsearchable: his unspeakable gift, 2 Cor. 9. 15. bringing joy unspeakable in change from Gods wrath to the Covenant of love in his appointed Seasons of good pleasure. At the presence of Christin conception, the Babe exulted, that was to be the Baptiser; hope for baptised Insants through his ministery of the Spirit; when their sins are to be forgiven, as in the next words of the New Covenant about the Least: [I will forgive their Iniquity] You will say it is a conversion by preaching; read the words again. It is a transcendent way of teaching ascribed unto God and not to

Men.

Men They shall teach no more every man his bro- Chap. 2. ther] fer. 31. 1 fohn 2. Yee need not that any man Numb. 2. teach you, but as the same annointing teacheth you. The holy Ghost a fountain of Unction spirituall and heavenly wind entereth as hee will; At Baptisme introducing elder men like New-born babes; the babes then are included; as when Gen. chap. 47. 13. Joseph fed his Father and Brethren as a little Child is nourished, the little ones also were nourished: So Christ in comparison of the Elder to a little includeth the Little one in his School of hope: if then without effect, it may be not without affect of his Fatherly mercy, who calleth those things which be not, as though they were, because they shall be. Rom. 4. Wherethe Gentiles are taught after the Example of Abraham to beleeve in hope, God glorying therein to be trusted as God of hope whose promise wanteth not effect in due season of mercy promised for a thousand age after age, and in his new Covenant express to teach the Least either then or at the age of Understanding, when (after the peoples petition Dent. 18) the Lord teacheth them by Man: Numb. 2. The Man Christ as Prophet appointeth speciall regard of Infants, as his, by Covenant under scal, binding them to knowledge, but in their future. opportunitie whether Jewes or Gentiles. Exod. 13. 14. 16. It shall be when thy son asketh thee in time to come, saying, What is this? that thou shalt say unto him, &c. Deut.chap. 6.7. These words which I command thee this day shall be in thy heart: and thou shalt teach. them diligently unto thy Children, and thou shalt bind them as a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as: Front-

Infants to be afterwards taught in time.

Chap. 2.

14

Frontlets between thine eyes, &c. Deut. 29 .30. And the wives with the Little ones entring Covenant with the Lord, The Lord saith, Chap. 31. 12. and 19. Gather the people together, men women and Children, and thy Stranger that is within thy Gates, that they may hear, and that they may learn, and fear the Lord your God: Now therefore write yee this song for you, and teach it the Children of Israel: parts of which fong (Deut. chap. 32.) are repeated in the new Covenant, as Rom. 19.8.9. and chap. 12. 19. and chap. 15.10. On purpose for invitation of the Nations to joyn with the Jewes, as the Lord then directed for our Learning. Learn we therefore to bring our young Children into Covenant with the Lord, binding them to the duties which they are afterwards to learn, as the young Children brought through the waters of lordan into the Land of promise were sealed with Circision, in token of the Covenant obliging them for the future to learn Gods Commandments plainly written upon twelve Stones taken out of Iordan by twelve men chosen out of the Tribes, as the Lord commanded Ioshua ch. 4. who thereupsaid, When your children ask their fathers in time to come saying, what mean these Stones? Then yee shall let your Children know: for the Lord God driedup the waters of Jordan untill yee were passed over, as the Lord Goddid the red sea (baptifing the young as well as the old in figurative mystery) That all the people of the earth may know the hand of the Lord that it is mighty, that ye might fear the Lord your God for ever. What was for ever unto them in figure, shall find a truth in the Church of Christ figured by that Land of promise. For

For that Christ was to be a Prophet like Moses, Chap. 2. so to teach and bless them, in blessing and teaching Numb. 3. their Children.

And that they whom the great Prophet (like Moses) herein blesseth under such Ordinance of his Prophetique Office in time of his new Covenant are to receive the bleffing in his name with the token of his Covenant at Baptism, that for his sake, in his fear, his bride the Mother-Church may shew the bowells of her love to them, Parents their love, Brethren their love, in prayer, care, and needfull help toward them, as known to be his, in that signed with his feal, to the glory of his infinite wifdom and almighty power in helping the weak and simple, as dearly purchased as the greatest, and accepted in his free mercy, which here seemeth to be revealed on purpose by the holy Ghostin application of the bleffing of that great Prophet to the baptized, Acts chap.2. and chap.3. as it were to shew his will for their baptizing, whose teaching he provideth for, Great and Small.

Chap. 3. Numb. 1.

CHAP. III.

Numb. 1. Infants bound to convert, blessed in converting whensoever. Numb. 2. Infants Children of the Covenant. Numb. 3. Infants children of the Prophets.

Number I.

F the Small you doubt, by reason of the last verse, Chap. 3. God having raised up his son Jesus, sent him to bless you, in turning every one of you from his iniquity.

Ev nd amsgigen: This Article (of) reacheth as far here as the same Article Tit. 2. 12. & maian, the whole life of man in this world being called this now, wherein we ought to turn from worldly defires, to live soberly, justly, and Religiously, when soever the grace of God so turneth us: (2,700) in this turning may be verified Christ his Prophetique blessing; a Prophet lookethupon every season of time, past, present, or future: Moses in the spirit of Prophecie wrote of the beginning, and the great Prophet was in the beginning, yea he was both beginning and end. The sense of this word Prophecie (prospecting the future in best propriety of speeh) his truth (as a Prophet in sense of his blessing now) is not onely for now, but also for future opportunities in turning from fin. Christ

Christ the same yesterday, to day, and for ever; Chap. 2. his word of Blessing the same by his Omniscient Numb. 1. Wisdom; and Omnipresent Excellency, at all times which either were present, or are, or shall be prefent hereafter : his bleffing was er ro smorgique when Repentance was preached by Iohn Baptist, and by Christ, when Christ prayed on the Cross, when he arose and departed at his Ascension, blessing his Apostles Commission, with authority to bless all future generations to the worlds end in his Name, by baptizing them with the baptism of Repentance to turn from fin, though in event, their turning from fin be afterwards in any year, month, or day of their life, after they have with Peter denyed Christ, or walked contrary to Christ, in errour, schism, uncharitableness, unrighteousness, uncleanness, Idolatry, covetousness; from which a time of returning by Repentance, is allowed unto fuch, as have thought, willed, and done contrary to Christ after their baptism. The Covenant of baptism holding out such expectative grace of Repentance, would you for expectation of grace deny the Covenant of baptism unto such as never have done, willed, or thought contrary to Christ, who can in any moment bless for everlasting, as he most lovingly provided from everlasting? and dare you forbid bleffing in his Name for the future, without his express word? yea, against his word, helping against you by many notables in the very Text, which with good Coherence, are enough for Application of Christs blessing against you, unto the little ones baptized in his Name, Acts 3.

1. Besides that, to the baptized are applyed the

Chap. 3: Numb. 2.3.

words of Moses, when he spake of Parents duty to teach their Infants, when they should afterwards be able to learn.

2. The great Prophet was to be like Moses, that had fuch care of Children.

Numb. 2.

3. The holy Ghost calleth that Prophet & raida, the child Jesus, to mind how the Covenant was scaled unto Jesus a child, in regard of Childrens salvation.

4. As the Parents are included in the feed by fœderative correlation, what is said of the seed, Gen. 22.17. is expounded of the Parents, Heb. 6.14. so what was promised to the Father, Gen. 12. 3. is ex-

pounded of the feed here, Acts 3. 25...

5. Abraham is named, whose Covenant included his young son Isaac, and Isaac is named here, whose Covenant included his son Jacob, and Jacob is named, whose Covenant of blessing included his sons also: these are named as examples for all other Covenanting Fathers to include their Families, that the bleffing might fo be communicable through the earth unto all Families, called here adpeal, from the Father-hood, which hath right of including his Infants under the Covenant of bleffing, to be taught

as they should be able to learn.

NHm. 3.

6. The baptized (here capable of the bleffing in that Prophets name) are called Children of the Prophets, as their style usually verifyeth the blessing of the future time in the words of the present or preterit, to affure, what is in Gods Name affirmed by his fervants the Prophets, as if it were already performed; in which sense Preaching the Word, in adaministration of the Sacraments, aptly may be called Prophefying,

So the preaching Jem, and the preaching Gentile, Chap. 3. Gods two Witnesses said to Prophesie Rev. 11. and Numb. 3. Rev. 12. 16. are said Passere to feed, implying their Pastoral duties in Administration of the Word with the Sacraments.

2. As the Prophetique word expressing Infants sucking at the breast, as meant in the Promise to be applied by baptism elsewhere noted, by compa-

ring toet 2. with Acts 2: 12 silling to the

3. As the Prophets own Infant-fons, fealed among the Disciples, to be signes of what Christ would have done in his brotherly-kindness, elsewhere argued more largely, by comparing Tiach 8. with Heb. 2.

4. Children of the Prophets, to learn this (with other things) which they fore-tel about admission

of Infants among the bleffed. We're scale said and

7. The words here Acts 3.23. are for cited from Dent. 18.18. with conjunction of other words from Gen. 17. 14. that include Infants, as well as those of riper age; assuredly, the wisdom of the holy Ghost would teach somwhat by this notable conjunction; what other cause, if not interesting Infants as well as others under the Covenant-bleffing (by this great Prophet here) in fear of danger to be cut off for contempt of such his Covenant-blessing?danger under the New Covenant as under the Old, which threatens also Parents, as deserving to be cut off, if they (through contempt) engaged not their Infants under the Covenant of bleffing by that great Prophet; danger threatned to the foul, argueth these words, (Gen. 17. 14. as repeated Acts 3. in time of the new Covenant) to concern the salvation of the

foul,

Chap. 3. Numb. 3. foul, for which Almighty God tyeth us to means when they may be procured, though his own Infi-

nite free mercy can help other wayes.

8. They all are to be baptized under the bleffing of this Prophet, that were then Children of the Covenant made with the Fathers: But Infants then were Children of the Covenant which God made with the Father, Gen. 12. faying, All the Kindreds of the earth shall be ble sed in thy Seed; an everlasting Seed to bless them that hold the Covenant in truth, rightly called an everlasting Covenant, even where Infants are included (Gen. 17. 13.) in the everlasting vertue of that blessed; that blessed Seed by blood-shed in his Infancy, bound to shed his uttermost blood at death for young Infants like himself, as well as for elder; it is called The blood of the everlasting Covenant, Heb. 13.

Infants thus therefore, as well as other Children of the everlasting Covenant are comprehended in the blessing, by this great Prophet, Alisa. like Mo-

ses in that care of Children.

CHAP. IV.

Christ the Son of God in that Union of Glory, Numb. 1. Directed Moses to Seal Infants, and teach afterwards.

Numb. 2. Gave the Law to Moses with

with such caution for Infants, and on Chap. 4. the same day, gave the boly Gbost to Sanctifie such cautions of teaching. Numb. 3. The Covenant with Rahab and all in her honse a Figure for the Church of Gentiles, Numb. 4. So. the Gibeonites had bleffing for them and their Children by Covenant, through their believing the Prophecies. Numb. 5. The Prophets praise the Church, as an Eagle carrying her litle ones, but dispraise the Ostridge, Job 39.

Number I.

Ea this great Prophet here was the very fame in person who made the Covenant with Abraham for Sealing the young Children, and who spake to Moses with Commandement for Fathers to teach young Children when they shall be able to learn. The Prophet (so to bless, Acts 3.) was no other person but the person of Christ the Son of God, who so spake to Moses in love of Children, Deut. 5. 29. O that there were such a heart in them, that they would fear me, and keep all my Commandements alwayes; that it might be

Chap. 4. Numb. I. well with them, and with their Children for ever, Deut.

6. Now these are the Commandements which the Lord your God commanded to teach you: Hear O Israel, and thou shalt teach them diligently thy Children, &c.

Christ being God the Son, spake in the glory the vision of Majesty presentative of Christ as he was to be man in future Offices of our Prophet, Priest, and King: The visional presence in the Name of God, but in the similitude of man, speaking face to face with Moses, by interpretation, taken out, (to wit, out of the water an Infant) designed in great Mysterie to guide the people of Israel and their Infants at their mystical baptism through the Red Sea, the Presence, or Angel of the Presence of the Lord, that in appearance of a flame of fire said unto Moses, Behold, the cry of the Children of Israel is come unto me: Come now therefore, I will send thee, that thou mayest bring forth the Children of Israel out of Ægypt. Thou shalt say unto the Children of Israel, I AM hath sent meunto you: I am that I am, or [I will be that I will be glorying for the future, as well as for the prefent, in mercy to the Children, as well as to the Parents: As before in Abraham's Family to Children new born, yea unborn; to Jacob unborn, the son of Isaac; to Isaac when he was new born, and when he was unborn; Yea to that other son of Abraham, the first whom God named before he was born, putting some of Gods Name [EL] into his Name [1smael] in a mystical blessing under a shadow of a curse, for him in Type, and his Anti-Type the Jewes now.

As his Mother had a double Relation, one bleffed, another accurfed; as Hagar, by interpretation a Fugitive, banished from the house of Abraham, but Chap. 4. blessed in returning thither; in an Allegory figuring Numb. 1. the old Jerusalem, Gal. 4. with her carnal Children, the Israelites, that shall be blessed in returning to the Church of Christ, in the Graces, Mercies, and Duties of new Jerusalem, figured in Allegory by sarah the Free-woman, true Wife of Abraham; which return of the carnal Israelites, must be by the gate of entrance into the Church of Christ, and that gate appeareth afterwards to be by baptism, as at a Fountain Hagar met this Angel of God, which affured the Birth of her fon, with addition of Gods Name in the end, faying, Thou shalt have a fon, and thou shalt call his name Ismael, because God hath heard thy affliction, and she called the Name of God that spake unto her, [Thou the God that seeft me] therefore they (Heb. therefore he) called it, The well of him that liweth and seeth] Whence Psal. 36. the speech of Prophetique mystery raiseth the Well of Life with him in the Spirit of David, the Spirit of the Son of David; in truth whereof, the house of David as God, as the Angel of God before them, and the feeble as David, Zach. 12.8. Who more feeble then Infants? yet strong as David, having God for his strength by Covenant. In that day shall be a Fountain opened to the house of David, and to the Inhabitants of Jerusalem, for sin, & for turning from uncleannes Zach. 13.1. Ifa. 55.1,3. Every one that thirsteth, come to the waters: The suremercies of David, in everlasting Covenant to the house of Judah first, and to the Gentiles, and at last to the Rebellious Israelites at the Well of Life, mystically returning from their sinful aversness, unto the mystical Sarah under the new Covenant, as persoFor Sealing Infants and Teaching.

Chap. 4. Numb. 3.

personal Hagar (with Child) was directed to return at that Well by that Angel of God, who (for that mystical joynture of both Covenants in one) might rightly be called the Angel of the Covenant, still the same in Essence to faithful Believers and their Children, by the prayer of Parents faith, in hope for their young Ones to be under Covenant of Gods mercy. Was not Abraham's desire and prayer unto God, 0 that Ismael might live before thee? And God said, For Ismael I have heard thee, behold I bliss him. And Abraham took Ismael his son, and all the Male Children of his house, and circumcifed the flesh of their fore-skin, in the self same day, as God had spoken with him. Gen. 17. What knowest thou to the contrary, but Circumcision was to him a Seal of Gods promised blessing for Righteousness by Faith? As to his father, who for him (in faith) procured a blesfing, though not to be the Progenitor of Christ, nor to inherit the figurative Holy Land; yet so, that. he might inherit Heaven thereby figured, and to be bleffed in Christ according to the Gospel-promises preached unto Abraham, and to his Seed; unless in time of tryal they refuse the inward Circumcision of their heart, promised also by God unto fuch as walk not contrary thereunto for ever.

In Ægypt the Lord spared all the first-born of 1st-rael, young or old, by claim of the first unto his service, preserving all their other Children. In that samous deliverance (not forsaking any one of them to be lest behind in the servitude of Ægypt) he Spiritually baptized young and old in the Cloud, and in the Red Sea: in the Cloud, as a token of his presence by Covenant; when the Cloud rested, they

rested,

rested, and when the Cloud progressed, they pro-Chap. 4. gressed; all in the Army, young and old, Numb. 10. Numb. 2. 34. The Cloud of the Lord upon them by day, when they went out of the Camp, and when the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord set forward, Moses said, Rise np Lord, and let thine Enemies be scattered; and when it rested, he said, Return O Lord unto the many thousands of Israel: Which the spirit of David enlarged with a Commentary, Psal. 68. Let God arise, A Father of the fatherless: The Heavens dropped at the presence of God, Thou O God diast send a gratious rain upon thine Inheritance—Unto God the Lord the issues from death.

Doth not this relate unto the Resurrection of Numb. 2. Christ, and his Ascension, giving Gifts unto men at baptism, as Peter interpreted at Descension of the Holy Ghost on the same day of Pentecost, whereon formerly the Law had been given? In remembrance whereof, it is here added in Psal. 68. 17. The Chariots of God are twenty thousands, (even) thousands of Angels; the Lord (is) among them (as) in Sinai, in the holy place.

By this gift of the holy Ghost, upon the same day whereon the Law was formerly given, this Lesson is held out unto us, That the holy Ghost was given on purpose to put the Lawes in our inward parts, as he promiseth in the new Covenant, to write in our hearts even the same Lawes of Morality, which were given on *Sinai* among the Thousand of Angels.

By that Angel of the Lord Christ (his visional presence called Arch-Angei) as Prince among the thousands of Angels, when the Law was given on E Sinai.

With cautions of teaching Infants.

26:

Chap. 4. Numb, 2.

Sinai, in the hand of a Mediator: by such Angelicale Ministry, Christ (who shall proclaim his Advent by the voyce of the Arch-Angel) did then deliver the Law by the hand (it may feem) of the Arch-Angel: Christ as the Son of God the Lord, speaking by that. glorious Presence, visionally presenting Christ as man, (that was to be Mediator) and also writing the Law in that visional Presence of glory; the Law might in that sense (Gal. 3.) be ordinate by Angels in the hand of a Mediator, and that Evangelical accomplishment by the Holy Ghost, being Prophetically praised in this 68 Psalm, in effect to be that glorious Legislative Ordination on Sinai; as on Sinai the Lord in that Angel of the presence, giving the Law written, in the hand of a Mediator, did. write the fifth Commandement, which appertaining to both Tables, for the duties both to God and man; so that God is honoured in honouring of Parents, which are living Images of God, and Instruments of his Father-hood; by Parents producing us, feeding us, and bleffing us; so should, and ought it to be with honour and thanks acknowledged, that when by the Godly care and Faithfulness of Parents, their Children are offered to be bound in . Covenant unto the service of God, to be blessed in . his Name, that God doth work in that Religious. work of the Parents, and doth accept their Children to the Covenant-bleffing in his holy Name, asit may further appear by that Angel of the Covenant in the Wilderness, and in the Land of Promise, they distrusting their own, and their Childrens safety, though promised by the Lord; As truly as I live (faith the Lord) your little Ones which ye Said.

faid fhould be a Prey, them will I bring into the Land, Chap. 4. but your Carcasses shall fall in the Wilderness; All that Numb. 3. were numbred of age for War, except two, Numb. 14. Rev. 11. the mention of two Witnesses again, in the Wilderness again, journeying from Egypt in Spirit, argueth for the like care of Children again, as under the Promise and Covenant of the Loid: And Numb. 22. when Balaam for a bribe would have cursed the uttermost parts of Israel, the Angel of the Lord (that with a Sword met the Prophet) so terrifyed him, that he blessed, and could not curse the least of Israel: The name of Balaam encourageth our Hope again in Gods Promise and Covenant for salvation of the Small as well as great, Rev. 2. 14, 17.

In the holy Land of Promise, the Angel of the Numb.3. Lord with a Sword in his hand, as a Captain of the Lords Host, Joshua 5, though sent to cut off the Canamites, yet spared such as through belief of the Prophecies had Covenanted with Israel; for the Covenants sake he spared Rahab and all in her house. The 2 Israelites had said, When we come into the Land, thou shalt bind this Line of Scarlet in the Window, by which thou didst let us down, (mystically referring to the blood of Christ) thou shalt bring thy father, and thy mother, and thy brethren, and all thy fathers houshold home unto thee, and who soever shall be with thee in the house, his blood on our head, if any hand be upon him.

These words were general enough to save their Children then, if they had any; yea, that the safety might be extended to such as should be born afterward, Joshua (sigure of Jesus Christ) chap 6. bid, Bring out the woman, and all that she hath, as ye sware unto her. And the young men that were spyes, went in,

E 2

and

28 Of the Gentiles, Gibeonites and their Children.

Chap. 4. Numb. 4. and brought out Rahab, and her father, and her mother, and her brethren, and all that she had, and they brought out all her kinred; and she dwelleth in Israel unto this day, inhabiting the Land of Promise.

Ablessed example, which the wisdom of antient Fathers esteemed to be figurative of the Gentiles admission into the Church of Christ Jesus; as she Covenanted for Brethren, and Kindred, with her Father and Mother, (which in age are said to become twice Children) why should it seem unreasonable for such friends to be Sureties in Covenant for Children?

Numb. 4 ..

The Lord also spared the Gibeonites and their little Ones for Covenant sake, with Oath in the Name of the Lord God, whose Prophecie they believed; but spared not King Saul's Family for breach of that Covenant, though in zeal for the people of Israel, and with countenance for the Lord God his charge, for cuting them off; the Lord in judgment remembring mercy, delighteth to have his fervants merciful, and faithful in Covenant, for honour of his great Name in which they fwear or vow, specially for the good of Children: The Children of the Gibeonites were sanctified and blessed at the return. from Babylonian Captivity, to re-possessthat holy. Land, as a pattern of mercy for encouragement of: Hope, to Sanctifie, the Nations and their Children. into the Church-Covenant of Christ Jesus, even in time of Reformation, at our departure from the corruptions of new Babylon ...

Though these practises of Rabab and the Gibeoonites were corrupted with some fraud and falshood, their Covenant was not thereby annulled.

buts

but they Covenanting for themselves and their Fa- Chap. 4. milies, were accepted, and so blessed, though under Numb. 5. the general charge to be cut off as Enemies unto Gods people; much more may Gods beloved people hope to be accepted and bleffed in Covenanting for their families to serve their Lord God, as Sureties by Promise and Vow in their name at Infant-baptism, under the new Covenant, Rahab being commended unto the faithful for example of fruitfulness in works of faith, justifying her before men by interpretation of the Apostle James, chap. 2: And the Gibeonites finding mercy when the Plague was upon Ifrael for their take; and that Plague ceafing! through Gods mercy, when justice was done against their Adversaries by David after his Inquisition, and Gods most holy direction: This appertaineth to the holy mercies of David under Covenant, Isa. 55. and afferted by the Apostle, Ads 13. through the Resurrection of Christ, the power whereof shall raise up great and small, according to the Prophets high exaltation of Gods Heavenly mercies in Covenant toward his Servants and their little Ones, car- Numb. 5. ried as upon Eagles wings, from bondage towards their rest, Deut. 32. In progress of which mystery, Rev. 12. behold the mystical woman upon Eagles wings in the Wildernel's again, affured fignification of mercy to young Children again; by the way, not to forget the contrary note against the Offrich, for leaving her Egs in the dust; forgeting that the foot may crush them, or the wild beast may break them; the is hardened against her young Ones, for that God hath not given her wisdom, Job 39. Look ye rather on the Eagles face of the Cherubins, by their thankf-E 2

Blessed under Covenant.

30

Chap. 4. Numb. 5. thanksgiving unto the Lamb of God, for Redeeming them by his blood out of every Tribe, wherefoever scattered among the Nations', Rev. 5. 8,9. with grateful joy at such performance of mercy, remembring how (to betoken interest in this great redemption) their Infants at a month old, were redeemed in that their well-ordered Camp of Israel, upon the four parts about the Mercy-Seat, on the Ark of the Covenant, visioned Prophetiquely by those four Cherubins; the sound of whose wings (like the Host of Israel, Ezek. 1. 24.) comprehending the young as Chickens under the wings of Christ, on his mystical Throne, as prince of Prophets, for Sanctification of small as well as great, according to the Prophetique holy Rules, and that at baptism, as undeniably cleared in holy Prophecies, about Christ his next Office of Kingliness.

particularly a transport of the

CHAP.

Chap. 5. Numb. 1.

CHAP. V.

Christ as King for Infant-baptism.
Numb. 1. The Dove and Olive-branch. Christ the Royal Branch becomet a Tree. The Root his Covenant, and Faith and love. Four sorts of Branches. Numb. 2. First Branches broken off after baptism or before.

Number I.

Ingly presentation in that Apoca-Num. 1.

lyptical Office, defendeth those
whom his Priestly washeth in his
blood at baptism, and Sealeth in
the forehead, to learn the song of
the Lamb, and of Moses, prescrib-

bout the Prophetique Office of Christ, for instruction of Gods Servants small and great, the small preceding the great in that express from his

Throne, Rev. 19.5.

All his Offices well agree, touching Infants Admission into the Kingdome of Christ, having a Crown of gold round about his Ark, where was his Throne or Mercy-Seat, Exodus Chapter 25. and a Crown of Gold round about his Altar

At baptism the holy Ghost like a Dove.

Chap. 5. Numb. 1. of Incense, Exed. 30. arguing his Kingly Priest-hood in his continual intercession of Prayer unto God for his Servants, and their Children of all Tribes, which furnished his Altar with Incense.

His Prophetique promise of Instruction also was Kingly, by way of Covenant, to write his Lawes in his peoples hearts, that they might know him from the least to the greatest in appointed times of his Grace, as merciful, and faithful, to the least, as to the greatest; to the Children, as to the Parents; his eternal mercy co-existing equally to all Times and Ages, that his glory may reign over all: Thus speaketh the Lord of Hosts by the mouth of his Prophet, Zach 6. The man whose name is BR ANCH shall bear the glory, and shall sit and Rule upon his Throne, and he shall be a Priest upon his Throne.

An Olive-branch in token of peace and mercy, brought in the mouth of a Dove unto Noah, preserved by waters, as we by baptism. Behold the Holy Ghost in likeness as a Dove at baptism of Christ, that Branch of the house of David; but thencesorth becoming an Olive-tree, to which the Holy Ghost by the word of Grace and Peace, bringeth young Plants of Jewes and Gentiles, that they may be Cómposon complantati, planted together in Christ at baptism,

Rom. 6.

Four forts of Branches.

Some to be broken off,
some to be Grafted in,
Some to be re-grafted that were broken off,
Some to continue on the Tree.
All help to clear Infants Right for their com-

plantation into Christ by baptism, as an entrance Chap. 5. into his Kingdom under Covenant, with holy Numb. 1.

Scripture warrant.

For understanding whereof, the condition of the Tree and the Root are to be seriously viewed. Gabriel having revealed the time when the Messias was to be cut off, not for himself, but for our Redemption, chap. 9. In the next Chapter, Daniel saw in a Vision, the Lord, that Messias, in similitude of a man at Hiddekel (the place of that River where Adam and Eve were driven out of Paradise) to foreshew how he would open Paradise again, as he did at his death, Luke 23. 24. dying on the dead Tree of the Cross for sin, he recovered the life, in hope of Immortality, lost by eating of the forbidden living Tree; o Death where is thy sting! Thanks be to God, through Jesus Christ, made sin for us: So making the Sting which killed him a Root of life to us 5 hence as that Sting of Death is called kirrer, I Cor. 15: 55. 1.15,25. So the Lord who maketh us partakers of benefit by that sting of Christs death, is said in nerrewar to graft in, Rom. 11. 23. and those that are grafted in Eynevleibhournu, to note, that their grafting into Christ, is to have felowship in the benefit of his death, that fellowship is one Root.

A second Root, is fellowship in the benefit of Christ his Resurrection; both which are joyned together by the wisdom of the Apostle Paul our Patern, Phil. 3. I do count all things loss, that I may gain Christ; that I may know him, and the Power of his Resurrection, and the fellowship of his Suffering, being made conformable to his death, if I may apprehend it, for which also I am apprehended of Jesus Christ. A Gouble

The Church of the Jewes and Gentiles

Chap. 5. Numb. 1. double apprehension, As the Branch taketh hold of the vertue of the Root, and the Root holdeth the Branch in life by Sap, without which the Branch dyeth, and is to be broken off: Answerable to the Sap of Branches, is the grace of Christians faith, in love of Christ, who saith, I am the Root and Off-spring of David, Rev. 22. The words of Davids Spirit and Zeal are applyed to Christ in the Gospel, and Christ applyeth to himself as the green Tree, what David (who lived not to see the Temple) foresaw of Christ, I like a green Olive-Tree in the house of God, Psal. 52. Christ verifying in himself whatsoever was in the Temple the House of God.

When Zachariah thought he had feen two Olive-Trees, upon farther view he called them two Olive-Branches, the Jew, and the Gentile: The Jew called Natural, not as in pure naturals, nor as in naturals corrupted with fin; but as exalted above natural corruption, to be in dignity and duty the people of God, the choyfest Plant, in the 5th of Isaiah by Covenant with Abraham and his successive Chil-

dren, in that sense his Natural Branch.

The Gentile called Wilde, as neglected in the wilderness of Self-will, without the Covenant of God, though it had alwayes a door open for admiffion of the strangers that would come in unto them, as Prophecie foreshewed, that the Gentiles would be grafted in amongst the Jewes, and with them partake of the Root and fatness of the Olive-Tree.

These two Branches the Revelation calleth Candlesticks, two Churches, Chap. 11. two Catholique Churches, One of the Jewes in all Countryes of all Tribes

Tribes, according to the Prophecies of their disper- chap. 5. sion, and recovery from thence in Gods most Righ- Numb. 1. teous and most merciful true judgments; for accomplishment whereof, the Canonical Epistles written by (their designed Apostles, Gal. 2.) Peter, James, and Iohn, are called Catholique Epistles, though pertaining (as profitable for learning) to all Nations: The other Catholique Church of Gentiles, for accomplishment of other Prophecies about their Conversion; yet both for their unity of Spirit, and light in Evangelical Doctrine of Christian faith, appeared as one Candlestick in Zach. 4. yea as one Olive-Tree. Though twice before he conceived them to be two Olive-Trees in distinct observations: Yetat his last re-view, when he conceived them as two Branches, the Angel interpreted them to be two Anointed Ones; in the Hebrue, Two Sons of Oyl, standing before the Lord of the whole earth, The Christian Jew, and the Christian Gentile collective, representing Jewes and Gentiles, full Witnesses of Gods truth in his Church, one true Catholique holy Church, uniting them, or admiting as united in Christto Regeneration (their washing of Regeneration, Tit. 3.) by Grace in baptism, Regenerated sons of Oyl, Grace; Grace who hath despifed the day of small things?

Let the Despisers (as they would seem Religious) ingenuously consider, how Oyl-Olive, (significative of Grace) sweet Incense, (significative of prayer,) and the blood of Sacrifice, (significative of Ghrists blood,) were by Divine Ordinance applyed to the Ark of Testimony, the token significative of the Lords presence on his Mércy-seat, be-

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twixt

Chap. 5. Numb. 1. twixt the Cherubims wings made of Olive-Tree, (Hebr. Tree of Olive) fignificative of Peace, 1 Kings 6. 23, and 32. Within the two doors of Olive-Tree, with carvings of Cherubims, (in face Child-like) as the Rabbins have conceived the fignification of their names also to be Cerubh, by compounding with a Particle of similitude. Our faith believeth the substance of what soever Divine Ordinance of that sigurative Temple, to be fulfilled in truth by Christ, the Temple, the Door, the Light, the Bread, the Veil, the most Holy, the King of Glory compassed with his Cherubims wings of mercy, by Covenant of his good will, for admission of little Children, as a Hen gathereth her Chicken under her wings in token of love; his Fathers love in sending, his own love in coming to dy for the sins of the World; love unto blood-shed for us, when we were his Encmies, Rom. 5. Praying for his Enemies, Prayer of love for his Enemies, even for them that shed the blood of his love; and after his Ascension from Mount Olivet the place of his Prayer, in love he fends down Gifts for his Enemies, even love the fruits of the holy Spirit, to make the Branches of his Olive-Tree fruitful in diligence to make their Calling and Election sure; first their Calling to be sure.

The first Calling is from God his act of Eternity, the same without change in it self for ever, God hath Elected, Called, Justified, and Glorisied, in that act, all that shall be Called, Rom. 8. 30. in identification of that Infinite, all-perfect; unchanged act, acting in others acts of change, past, present, or

to come, as he purposed from everlasting.

From this Calling of his Divine purpose, are

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the acts of secondary calling by Man, Ministers, Pa-Chap. 5. rents, and helping Friends: Ministers call by the Numb. 1. Word and Prayer, the two means calling effectually towards Sanctification ordained of God, 1 Tim. 4. Ministers calling by the Word, is either Indefinite by Preaching the pure Word, which declareth what manner of men the Elect are to be in their duties if they will be saved; or definite, applying the promises of the Word unto the baptized by name in Prayers with them, or for them, if Infants; that these means of the Word and Prayer may be effectual for them to the glory of Gods grace; so calling out of Egypt Spiritual, as of the Typical. At the Transfiguration of Christ, appeared only Moses and Elias, two notable Witnesses of great mercies, in love to little Ones; and their discourse was about Christs decease (his Exodus in Greek) glorious for conduct, most effectual to little Ones departing thence, and their 2100805 entrance into the Kingdom of Christ, as before through water into the figurative place of rest, 2 Pet. 1. 11. So they made sure Election also, while they made fure the calling by diligence in adding to Faith, Love, either for themselves, or others, as Ministers to the Flock, Gods heritage, Psal. 127. Children an heritage of the Lord, (to inherit their Fathers God) the fruit of the womb a reward. As Arrows in the hand of the Mighty, so Sons of the youth: O blessed the man that hath filled his Quiver with them, as helps against Enemies in the Gate, either of judgement or defence: A Quiver keeps them ready prepared to be shot, the Father shooteth them as Arrows at a Mark, by good means, good Counsels to the Intelligent at ripe age; good Prayers, good purposes,

Chap. 5. Numb. 1.

poses, good vowes, to Gods glory, by Gods Ordinances; Gods Ministers, Gods Deputies, Parents, or Parent's Deputies, good Sureties may be said to shoot, destinate, or sub-predestinate Infants, in subordination to Gods good Will, revealing his Eternal Predestination by good means, to a good end; all in the Bow of Gods Covenant, which Christ hath in his hand, Rev. 6. wherein he holdeth the Book for direction, Rev. 10. and Ministers, Rev. 2. and the Spirits, Rev. 3. enabling the Shooters to direct, and others as Arrowes directed in Covenant to proceed by Faith and Love. Those Children as Arrowes here, (in the next Pfal. 128.) are called Olive-Plants, Paul planteth, Apollo watereth, in hope God will give the increase. Faith is the ground of hoped things, and the evidence of what is yet unseen; Infants capacity, Grace-hability, Grace-agibility to do the work of Faith, in love of Christ his Covenant.

Election to Faith grafteth not sufficiently, Faith is Temporal in some, Eternal in none; yielding to the light of Glory: Charity rooteth unto Eternity by Prayer, Eph. 3. 17. So rooted in love, that ye may know the love of Christ in you, your calling made sure unto the end, maketh sure your Election, according to

the Eternal purpose in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Assured finally by your own Prayers for perseverance in love, toward which the Prayer of Ministers, Parents, and Sureties, are helpful to make all men see the fellowship of the Mysterie, that the manifold Wisdom of God might be known by the Church, (saith the Apostle) intending thereby to praise the visible dispensation of the Gospel-

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Unsearchabl-Riches among the Gentiles. Chap. 4. Although the faithfullest in their infirmities of Numb. 1.

tentimes intermit the duties of love, Rev. 2. The Church of Ephelus first of the seven Candlesticks; receiving the first praise, and first promise of reward of Conquest, I will give to eat of the Tree of Life in Paradise] yet the pastor thereof heard, Thou hap left thy first love. Remember therefore from whence thou art faln, and repent, and do thy first works, or else I will come unto thee quickly, and remove thy Candlestick, except thou repent. Had not those other exemplary Churches faltered under sin also? Courses, Go-Ecclesiate, God did conclude all (in the Church) under sin or disobedience that he might have mercy upon all, Rom. 3.11. Mercy to the Jewes that are broken off, for they had hold before they were broken off, and possibly might be grafted in again, by the Spirit anointing Christ to heal and bind up the broken, Luke 4.10. that not fragment belost, Iohn 6. 12. his goodness agitating to Repentance, even the impenitent; Rom. 2. mercy to the Gentiles grafted, in that in their mercy, the Jewes might find mercy; whosoever make their calling sure to the end, thereby making fure their Election.

Election from Eternity decreeing to work, but as in event it worketh in mens works, either for a time or to the end; in supposal of which final effect or defect, men seem not here to be considered, Rom. 11. but rather in proposal of mercy, to prevent by good perswasion, that they might not be cut off finally with the Reprobate in impenitence or insidelity, but rather be saved among the Saints elect from everlasting free Grace in Gods holy good pleasure, of infinite mercy to everlasting glory. Such absolute

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Chap. 5. Numb. 1.

Election, appeareth not to be taught in this Apostolique Doctrine of breaking off, or ingrafting, prepared by way of condition, If thou continue in goodness, otherwise thou also shalt be cut off: And it they continue not still in unbelief, they also shall be grafted in. If the fall of the Jewes be the riches of the Gentiles, how much more their fulness? In as much as I am the Apostle of the Gentiles, I magnifie my Office, if by any means I may provoke my Kindred the Jewes to emulation, and might save some of them. This was Evangelical agitation in the Visible Church, progressing in his former sense of the tenth to the Romans, With the heart man believeth unto Righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto Salvation, by the Covenant of that Saviour out of Sion, to turn away ungodliness from Jacob; Isa. 59. 21. My words which I have put in thy mouth, shall not depart out of thy mouth, nor out of the mouth of thy Seed, nor out of the mouth of thy Seeds Seed for ever saith the Lord: Gratiously by Divine Providence, reciting part of that his Covenant, Rom. 11. 26. to give light to the Visible Church, that she might derive his mercies unto all in her duties.

Yet with awful admiration of his unsearchable judgements in his wayes past finding out, about that Doctrine of his absolute Election, in a right sense of excellent use, his Divine Omnipotence

working all in all.

But with needful cautions, to prevent extreme abuses in saddest Agonies of the Church; God help in season, with grace and mercy from his Throne of glory, by the light of his holy Prophecies, for agreement, establishment, and accomplishment, in

truth

truth of all duties for the Common-weal of all. Chap. 5.

I. Caution needful, that none prefuming on Numb. I. Gods Election, neglect due Christian Ordinances, efficacious towards enduements of saving Grace in Saints, elect to the means of labour, as well as the Harvest.

2. Caution, that none despair in the God of

Hope and Love, while he giveth life.

3. Caution, for inspired Theologie, to transcend the wisdom of Philosophie, that had experience enough against condemning any before their end,

and against flattering any that must end.

4. Caution, not to wrong Children new born, whom God appointeth to be his Witnesses and Judges, after thousands in the dust and waters sink; that with liberty, like as the Olive sprig (betokening peace by Grace in Jesus Christ) the Cospel of peace in the mouth of Ministes, (bid to be like Doves, in remembrance of that Dove taken in by Noah the Type of Christ) might with Prayer for admittance at baptism, offer young Infants (the fitter for tenderness) to be ingrafted in the green Olive-Tree, whereof Christ maketh Application to himself, Luke 23. 31. as in figure of Christ, Jeremiah 11. did to himself, and to the people in Covenant with God: The Lord called thy name Green Olive-Tree, fair, of good fruit, yet to be cut off. Ilike a Lamb brought to the Slaughter---they devised devises, let us destroy the Tree; let us cut him off from the Land of the living. To cut off, the Prophet Jeremiah (in figure of Christ) fore-warning that they should be cut off, for cutting themselves from the Covenant, by cutting off Christ the Lord of Life: So sure that Feremiah was forbid

Chap. 5. Numb. 1.

How Jeremiah prayed, and prayed note

to pray against it, as a Prophet, and yet to teach how they by Prayer might be re-grafted, as a charitable Servant of God then prayed against their cutting off, when God remembred his Covenant, faying, Obey my voyce, so shall ge be my People; that I may perform the Oath which I have sworn unto your Fathers. To that answered Jeremiah, [Amen O Lord] Amen the name of Christ, Rev. 3. the God of Truth, Jer. 10. 8. 1/a.65. That he who bleffeth himself in the earth, shall bless himself in the Name of God, Amen. In whom all the Oaths, and Promises of Godare Year and Amen, to fuch as pray in his Name, by vertue of his Intercession as Incense with their Prayers, even fuch as had been his Enemies: The world he prayed for, (10h. 17.21, 23.) yet(v.9.) not for the world; forasmuch as they applyed not his Prayer, it was not effectuall for them who would not be Sanctified by his Atonement for them among his Enemies, nor bless themselves in his Name Amen, as Isa. said, and Fer. did here, that the Covenant might be true and firm, which God had fworn; fee Deut. 7. v. 6,9,12,13.

Thou art a holy people, the Lord thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, the faithful God which keepeth Covenant and mercy with them that love him, and keep his Commandements, to a thousand Gene-

rations, and repayeth them that hate him.

Wherefore if ye hearken to these judgments, and keep them, and do them; the Lord thy Godshall keep unto thee, the Covenant, and the mercy which he sware unto the Fathers, and he will love thee, and bless thee, and multiply thee, he will also bless the Fruit of thy body.

1. Consider, that Children being thus bleffed in this first Covenant, made with the House of Isra-

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el and Judah, the new Covenant also made with the Chap. 5. same House of Israel and Judah (Heb. 8.) for enlarge. Numb. 1. ment of Gods mercies and love, includes also Children with their Fathers.

2. Consider, that this first Covenant of the Israelites as a chosen People, was from Gods Election of

them to an outward Holy State by Covenant.

3. Consider how there was veiled under the first Covenant somewhat of the substance of that second, in that Oath of God in his mercy, love, and blessing to them and their fruits, as holy to God by Covenant.

Thus it appeareth that here is no warrant for presumptuous searching in that unsearchable Fountain-Election of Gods Eternal, Infinite, free, good pleafure by mortal men, thereupon to shut out others, old or young in particular, or to restrain the means of Grace from them now as of certainty, but in the fear of God, with awful humility, to confider how (by good means) to make fure Gods Election as revealed in his holy Word, and Oath, and Covenant of his free love and mercy to faithful Fathers; and by their Prayerful acceptance thereof, with hopeful and thankful obedience toward ingrafting also their Children, (a Branch in our Translation being a Son of the Tree in Heb. Pfal. 80. 15.) accordingly now at baptism into the benefit of Christs death, the precious Corner-Stone, for Jewes and Gentiles to be laid upon him, little as well as great, helping to fill up, as in material, so in Spiritual edification, (praised 1 Pet. 2.) in truth, answerable to that of the Covenanted holy people, (Dent. Chap. 5. Numb. 2.

Numb.2.

18,19, 22.

(Deut.7.) if the Pharisees were here to deride them, as understanding in their Infancy no more then stones, Iohn's answer might serve, to the glory of Gods mercifulness, able (as raising Isaac in a manner out of a dead hope) so to raise up Children unto Abraham out of these Stones, Isaiah 54. Sing O barren (Sarah) that did not travel with Child, thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles, and make the desolate places to be inhabited: I will have mercy on thee (faith the Lord thy Redeemer) neither shall my Covenant of Peace be removed, saith the Lord that hath mercy on thee. I will lay thy Stones with fair Colours, and I will make thy Windowes of Agats, and all thy Borders of pleasant Stones; and all thy Children shall be taught of the Lord, and great shall be the peace of thy Children: With whom God adorneth his Temple of mercy, as the tender affectioned Mother adorneth her Children with Agats, and other precious Stones, Rev. 21. Holy new Jerusalem descending out of Heaven to be the Lambs Bride, his Church pregnant and Militant on the breadth of the earth, having the glory of God (to fill the earth, from the greatest to the least) and her light like unto a stone, most precious, even like Rev. 21. 11, a Jasper stone, clear as Christal, (All in Christ the Lamb, being the Temple thereof) and the building of the Wall of it was of Jasper; the last stone whereon the name of Benjamin as youngest was written, according to the order of their birth, Exod. 28. to shew that the young are dearly beloved of the Lamb of God, and others dear as they comply with the young.

All ye dear Christian Mothers, and all others, whom Christ would have to be his Mothers in dearness of love to young Children; all trusty good Nur-Chap. 5. ses, and dearly dear affectionate Sisters, as you a-Numb. 2. dorn Infants with Corral-stone, that grew on a Tree in the water; Also ye grave Fathers and Brethren, who find among the Mirables of Oxford Library that Coat (which as an honourable Agent of Queen Elizabeth had for a presentment in Muscovia, and from him I beheld, when represented from his Honour, with Presace of gratitude to blessed-University) made of the Wool of the Muscovite-Lamb, that from the Navil, as a Plant groweth on the earth by Divine Providence of our Almighty good Creator, in such conjunction of the Plantanimal,—a Tree-Lamb, and a Coral-stone-Tree, to shew how his excellentest goodness delighteth in accord of his handy-works, whereof Christ the Lamb of Godischief under his holy Government.

Pray for the bleffing of baptism in effectual Grace, according unto such unoffensive representation of the nursing Child, as a Lamb, a Stone, and a Plant to be complanted at baptism into Christ the Lamb, the Stone, and the Tree of Paradife; having fuch fruit (a month old) every month for accrescion of Jew and Gentile, twelve manner of fruits for the twelve Tribes of Israel, in accomplishment of their fore-fathers Prayers, Prophesies, Benedictious, to be communicated unto the Gentiles entring by the Gates, that have their twelve names after example of their baptismal ingraftings into their Olive-Tree, with an Ax laid by the first baptizer unto their Root, for cutting (as fuel for Hell-fire) all that bring not their fruit to good, as in Covenant with the only true God; the Apostle Jude for his

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care

Chap. 5. Numb. 2. care for the common falvation, lamented to fee fuch, whose fruit withered as fruitless already, then rooted out in his time, and twice dead, through their unbelief cut off from the comfort of both Covenants, (theirs by right, Rom. 9.) alleged by the Apostle Ministerially, to try for reviving them, or some of them so far as he could in his Office of Ministery, that made him a debtor to Jew and Gentile for outward dispensation of Gospel-mysteries, Ordinances of Grace, in care for all the Churches of Christ.

The old Covenant of Ceremonies at first being mortal, appointed to dy; mortua, dead at the death of Christ, but mortisera, deadly through unbelees of the new Covenant, after sufficient proclamation thereos: Such sinal unbeleeving Jewes became twice dead from helps by either Covenant; dead in themselves, and dead toward their Children, whom they might have helped by their Prayers of lively saith and love to Christ; and the Children alfo twice dead, dead in the root of their unbeleeving Parents, and dead in themselves, by want of lively saith in the Covenant of Christ, and want of hungring and thirsting in Prayers of love, for his love unto the death by his blood shedd, precious enough to Redeem them with others; all in sin.

They that were baptized by Iohn, about the 30. year of Christ, above the 51. year of Christ, (when the Epistle to the Romans was written) were of age to be cut off by their own dissent: and others by their Fathers disswassion, either after baptism, or against baptism in Christs time, who for remedy thereof taught, that the holy Rule Matth. 10.38.

He that loveth Father or Mother more than me, is not Chap. 5. worthy of me.

Worthily therefore cut off from benefit of the Root, as fruitless Sprigs or Branches of withered bows; faithless Parents through unbelief destroying themselves and their Children with after-consents to their evil example, and evil counsel, contrary to the good will of Christ.

[Iwould, and ye would not.]

Contrary causes hindring the work one of another.

[I would have gathered together, and ye would not.] It feemeth as if he had said, I would have admitted into my Church, my Convocation, or Congregation, my Mystical body, you and your Children as my Members in my Church-Assemblies in Covenant with me, for protection under my Mercy-feat, as fulfilling the mercy which called for Infants fucking at the breast to be Members of the holy

That this defired gathering (as under the Hens wings) was at baptism, the Reason of our perswa-

sion may be seen.

Assemblies of Israel.

[Christ would:] A favourable affect, of a reasonable (and as considered by it self possible) effect; the Parents belief in present, and their Childrens with them, to be gathered together amongst Believers, in expectance of their belief afterwards: The Jewes would not have this, but rather the defect in both their own and their Childrens unbelief, yea and a contrary effect of hatred against the belief of Christ.

Such effect and defect privatively, but effects in

Against the will of Christ.

48 Chap. 5.

Numb. 2.

love and hatred of belief contrarily opposites, appertain to the same subjects capacity. The same Children which Christ would have had to be collected, the Jewes would not; their belief which Christ would, and the unbelief and hatred of belief which the Jewes would, concerned the same object, the same Gospel concerning the Jewes and their Children; the same by which Christ would have gathered their Children into his Congregation, they rejected from themselves, and from their Children.

CHAP. VI.

Numb. 1. Second sort of Branches grafted in, Children of Gentiles. Numb.2. Children of the remnant of the Jewes return, the third sort of Branches regrafted in.

NUMBER I.

He same which the Jewes refused, was offered upon occasion in Gods great mercy to us Gentiles, by dispensation of the same Gospel of Christ; therefore Christ by his Gospel would gather together our Children, the second sort of Branches succeeding in the place of the first so cut off.

The first fort of Branches (the Jewes Children)

were

were cut off by their Parents unbeleef.

Chap. 6. Numb. I.

So great force as the Parents diffent had in cut-Numb. 1. ting off, their consent and faith, might, and ought to have had in com-planting their Children with Christ, and in Christ.

What they neglected, may, and ought to be by

the Gentiles accepted.

Therefore our consent and faith, may, and ought to conclude our Children under the Gospel-blef-fing to be believed; beleef taking hold of the promised blessing under the new Covenant of the Gospel.

worship Christ new born, encourageth by that Saviour a Child, to hope for salvation of their Chil-

dren.

2. Joel calling the Nations for the future to be judged in the Valley of Jehoshaphat, in reference to what had fore-passed there, 2 Chron. 2. 13. when the little ones presented, immediately the Spirit of the Prophet assured of victory, while the Ministers praised God, for his mercy endureth for ever, the Enemies fell to the earth dead bodies, that the Nations might learn not to oppose, but joyn with the Children of Israel, and partake in the promise of Spirit on all flesh, including Infants sucking at the breasts, applyed to baptism, Associated See our Chapter 9. Number 4.

3. Christbeing baptized, openeth the door of his Kingdom by baptism to Galilee of the Gentiles, Matth. 4. 15. fulfilling what Isaiah prophecied chap. 9. of them that in Galilee of the Gentiles sate in darkness: Who more dark than Children? who need-

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Chap. 6. Numb. I. ing more to be warmed by that coinfort of the Saviour there thining out, as born a Child? of which a. non more in our Chapter 9. Number 1. See there also for .

4. The generation of Vipers, & other fort of cruel beafts, meeked with Infants at the Enfign of Christs Kingdom, explained to be baptifm, and that to be fet an Enfign for Nations, from the four corners of the earth, Maiah 11. 8, 10,11,12, applyed Acts 10. mystically by that Vessel (as it had been a great sheet tyed at the four corners) containing all manner of beasts to be cleansed; Nations of all sorts to be baptized, with pre-caution for Infants and fucking Children, by the precedent word of the Prophet Isaigh.

5. The Gentiles shall joyn with the Jewes to be Children of ferufalem which is from above, Gal. 4. born from above at baptism, Iohn'3. Isaiah 60. The Gentiles shall come, then thou shalt see flow together the Nation's by National consent in their Councils, as Rivers shall flow, and so the noyse of the Sea shall be converted unto thee; the Nations that will not ferve thee, shall be utterly wasted.

The Sons also of them that afflicted thee shall come bending unto thee, to wit, as the Wise-men in worship of Christ thy Son, thy Saviour and theirs. An eternal Excellency, by whom a little One shall become a thousand; the greater his glory, to hasten

fo great a work through a little One.

Whether in truth it were intended by way of example, upon demonstration, sufficient for the duty to baptize one little Infant; a thousand should be brought into the like baptism: Or whether (other-

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wise of introduction) a single one baptized (after Chap. 6. sufficient advertises of Christian duty) were to be Numb. 1. so strengthned in conscience thereof, that he should become Eloquent, or Potent enough in Christ, who hath all Power in Heaven and Earth, to strengthen a whole Nation in love of Christ, to sub-

mit under his Ensign of baptism, and that such a Nation as had afflicted Christians before: The Character of true Christianity, to Bless Enemies, and o-

vercome evil with good.

Hath any more afflicted the People of God than the Turk? Hath not his Alcoron a clause about Jerusalem to be a Village until the Nations come in? By the Providence of God it may seem a preparative for an expectation of the Nations coming foretold herein by the Prophet Isaiah: It being not unlike, that the Contrivers of the Turkish devotion, had some knowledge of the Scriptures, as waged in the great Armies of Heraclius a Christian, after the fix hundredth year of Christ, and the story not discovering impatience in the Turk at a late address in writing, to perswade, that the time was come for his conversion unto Christ; in which was alleged a Tradition from the Priests of Mahomet, that he being asked on his death-bed how long his Religion and Empire should last, in answer only lift up his ten fingers toward Heaven.

Whether his meaning were to have the Rule continued so long as could by strength of hands, or that it was to be over-ruled by the Angel of the Lord, who lift up both his hands in Oath, for the good of his people Israel, 1290 dayes, (years in Prophetique accompt) after the full scattering of Dani-

H 2 els

Chap. 6. Numb. 1. els people, Chap. 12. Their most famous scattering, when they had digged up the foundation of their

Temple, not leaving a stone upon a stone.

Ecclesiastical Story reporteth, as about the year of our Lord 363. which added unto the fatal Number 1290. pointeth at the year 1653. Many great concurrences have appeared lately for encouragement hereof, both in this Nation and elsewhere, as in the Jewes late Assembling to dispute about Christ, and their appointment of another Assem-

bling.

That the conversion must be to baptism, it well accordeth with the Prophetique expression of Daniel, chap. 12. As upon the waters to be purified and made white, Rev. 1. expoundeth to be by Christ, in his white Robes of Priestly Function, to make atonement, washing us in his blood, and putting on us his white Garment of Praise, in stead of the red Cap put on them by the Romane Beast in pride, of Scarlet, pointed at by the finger of Gods Spirit, for the Jewes and the Romans conspiring in derision, to put a Scarlet Robe on Christ King of the Jewes, who triumpheth in his white of mercy, leading Captivity captive, and giving Gifts unto his Enemies, over-ruled by his victorious Grace, willingly to yield their Children captive to Jerusalem, whose Children they had held captive, sold as Tribute, specially to Gracia. where the Turk now Reigns.

One baptized Child becoming Tributary, may work about the great work, when his baptismal Grace, which is but ableness, or hability, shall receive further efficacy of Gods efficacious Grace,

compared to flashes of Lightning, in Scholastique Chap. 6. Theologie; by rule of Prophecie, those flashes of Numb. 1. Lightning are out of the fire amidst the Cherubims of the redeemed Ones, under the Throne of the Mercy-feat of God by Covenant, Ezek. 1. the Throne of Grace; whence efficacious to help in time, is by Prayer, with freedom of access, and confidence of success: If Christians did pray enough efficacious Grace would flow to all baptized, and most where is most need, under the Turkish cruelty for the small to mine the great unto Christs most Glory. Esaias named the Child about six score years before he was born, that was to deliver Israel out from the Babylonian Captivity: Daniel, (one of the Captive) prayed God not to defer, for the Temple, and for the City Jerusalem, and for his People; and God deferred not, but granted his defire, and the People had liberty to return authorized. And God said, I will remove the iniquity of the land in one day, Zach. 3.9. In gratious answer unto the Prophet Esayas, chap. 66. 8. Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day a Nation at once? The Lord undertook it, and that he would hasten it in his time, chap. 60. 22. His heart in love abideth not hinderances, but overthroweth them all, whether Wise, Rich, or Mighty: Not to glory but in him, a God of loving-kindness to the Small also. shall I bring to the birth and not bring forth? saith the Lord, Isaiah 66. upon complaint of Children brought to the birth, but not brought forth. The wrath of the Lord broke forth, and sew in one night thousands in the Assyrian Army, an hundred fourscore and five thousands in the morning, all dead corpses, H 2

Children not brought forth.

Chap. 6. Numb. 1.

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and Sennacherib himself was slain by his own Sons; many more having perished in Turkish Armies, the Turk may happily relent toward Christians Children, and for safeguard of their own lives, defire to have their Children seasoned with duties, at baptism by the grace of Christ.

Interpreters agree not about the sense of that

complaint about Children not brought forth.

But the Messenger was Eliakim, by interpretation The resurrection of God; or Godariseth answerable whereunto, the Apocalyptical Angel of Christ his presence. One like unto the Son of Man saith, I was dead, and am alive for evermore: And have the Keyes of life and death, Rev. 1. and chap. 3. I shut, and no man openeth, I open, and no man shuteth: So taking unto himself these words that were spoken of Eliakim Isa. 22.22. and by consequence hath right also to the words there following about Eliakim his glory, to have hanged on him all Vessels of small quantity, from the Vessels of Cups, even to all the Vessels of Flaggons, or Vials, v. 24. to be purged and washed for the uses of the Lord, (baptizing in his Name) for that purpose (without over curious presumption) our humbleness of sincerity stayeth at · the outfide of the complaint by way of comparison, whereas in extremities of Pestilence, Famine, War, or any great calamity, Faint women unable to bring forth their Children, fall to fad complainings; So when after feeking from place to place, from Minister to Minister, if there be not procured liberty for their Childrens Admission to baptism, (wherein they hope for partaking of the Covenant of Newbirth, by the Water and Spirit of Christ, in their e-

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stimation more precious than the first birth to life:) chap. 6. In pitty blame not their lamentations, but in awe Numb.1. of Gods more dreadful judgements, uprightly seek to know his good will herein.

In truth of humble docibility praying to learn how God ordaineth to be well pleased in Christ his

Son towards us great and small.

1. His Divine Providence revealed that his good pleasure, first after his baptism by John, who baptized others; as it were Gods purpose to raise up their hope of partaking in that good pleasure of God for his Sons sake, as an establishment, or accomplishment of their baptism through his Prayer, Luk.

3. 21. When all the people were baptized, in Cartins wing therein Jesus also being baptized, and praying a woyce came from Heaven saying, Thou art my beloved Son, in thee I am well pleased. In Christ to others by the gift of God, Matth. 11. 25. all the good pleasure of God, fulfilled by God in others, 2 Thes. 1. 11.

2. This good pleasure of God was revealed with the Holy Ghost, both upon Christs being baptized, and praying, Luke 3. 21. as a blessing upon his Prayer, and upon his baptism in baptizing all the people, Christ was also baptized, and prayed; thereupon Heaven opened, and the Holy Ghost descended with a voice from Heaven, revealing the good pleasure of God toward the baptized.

3: Jesus thus prepared by baptism and Prayer, with the Holy Ghost, overcame the Devil for us, and taught us to overcome for our selves, and for ours in him, by baptism and Prayer with the Holy Ghost.

4. Christ herein averreth himself to be the true Christ,

Chap. 6. Numb. 1.

Christ, foretold and figured by the Prophets; foretold by the Prophet Esaias, chap. 61. This day is the

Scripture fulfilled, Luke 4.

5. There he proclamed the acceptable year of the Lord, as prefigured by the year of Jubilee, wherein deliverance, redemption, and liberty was to Parents, and to their Children, Levit. 25. 405 41. The poor as an hired, as a Sojourner shall ferve with thee, unto the year of Jubilee, when he shall depart from thee, both he, and his Children with him, and shall return unto his Family, unto the posfession of his Fathers shall he return, for they are my fervants. God the great Lord will have it so. The great and small shall be accounted his, that he may be glorified for his mercy, in delivering them from grievances, and settling them in possession of inheritance in the Land of Promise, a Pattern or Figure of his Kingdome, which he then began to preach after baptizing, Mark 1.15. saying, The time is fulfilled, and the Kingdome of God is at hand: Into which his Kingdome, the gate is opened at baptism, Iohn 3.5. Jesus answered, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the Kingdome of God. But of Infants he saith, Mark 10. Suffer little Children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the Kingdome of God.

O heavenly blessed Jubilee for small and great, unto the glory of his Spirit, the Fountain of Life

in baptisin, by his holy new Covenant.

6. The holiness of which good Spirit, Christ here compareth unto Oyl, by his interpretation of the Prophesie for himself and for others, Luke 4. The spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed

me to preach the Gospell to the Poor, the acceptable year Chap. 6. of the Lord, as foretold by Esaias 61. to give Oyl of joy Numb. 1. for mourning. That they might be called Trees of Righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorisied.

O Glory for Plants as well as for Trees, Oyl of Joy for Young and Old, the Child and his Mother! How seasonably did Christ mind that Widdow and Child so preserved with Oyl as a figure, fulfilled by him in his Oyl of the Spirit at this begin-

ning of his Kingdom in Baptism.

- of the Spirit; and that supernaturall preservation of life by Oyl, a sigure of preserving the Spirituall life in Christ his Kingdom; so beginning at Baptism, the sundamentall occasion upon which our Saviour appeared to build his whole discourse, for Application of these Prophetique words and sigures to himself, and those holding with him: in Conformity thereunto might that restitution of the Childs life sigure the Resurrection of Christ assured in his new Covenant to the baptised: A precious thred of eternity through the Needles eye of a little One in the Armes of his Mother and of Elias.
- 8. A bleffed mercy rewarding for her Motherly prayer in faith & repentance; Her fin came to mind for which death was due: But art thou come for that? onely that? when I thought that I and my fon must dye for want, Elias saying fear, not her heart conceived a seed of faith for longer help: A little seed of weak faith which faileth not while any jot of the word is unfulfilled, or while the minister is pre-

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Chap. 6. Numb. 1. fent, and forsaketh not, nor is forsaken, but asked whether any further hope of retaining him with a bleffing may hinder separation at the brink of extremity; what? any thing more? wordsit may be of temptation to despair (what have I to do with thee) yet not of desperation, as remembring from whom he was fent: O thou Man of God in whose name thou camest saying, Fear not, for thus saith the Lord God of Israel, the Barrell of meal shall not mast, neither shall the Cruse of Oyl fail, untill the day that the Lord giveth rain, and the Barrel of Meal wasted not neither did the Gruse of Oyl fail, according the word of the Lord web he spake by Eliah: Had she not faith to beleeve this and upon this to believe further? Ought her Faith to dye with her fon? or rather ought she to beleevein that God who preserved life so mightily, so mercifully, that he could and would restore life upon prayer of a penitent and faithfull heart feeking in. the name of God to consult about the Uttermost of his Message sent in his Word? Answer O Man of God; Answer for thy Message wherein thou art fent from God; Answer for the Glory of God, the God of Israel --- Elias had not then an express warrant, but stirred upthe spirit in him to the uttermost that he could: In reason as a Man arguing by consequence to the full performance of his warrant, in effect his warrant was at Sarepta to a Widddow not named, but by consequence hee concluded her that he met to be the Widdow intended for his sustenances upon her readiness to fetch a little water in a Vessell, by consequence hee required her to bring for him a Morfell of Bread in her hand: Upon her Oath of scarcity that there was but one dreffing:

The Widows Son.

dressing for her and her son to eat and so to dye, chap. 6. by consequence of Gods promise that Elias should Numb. be susteined by her untill the end of three yeares Numb. I. and a half, Elias would first have a little Cake, and then he bid her make for her self and her son; in hope of supply, which promised without an express, in as much as God commanded her to sustein Elias, Elias was bold to promise by conse. quence that God would sustein her and her son by continuance of the Meal and Oyl, and it continued according to the word of the Lord which he spake by Elijah (the Hebrew saith by the hand of Elizah, the hand lift up in Prayer)it was bleffed as the word of the Lord which the faithfull and praierfull spirit of Elizah spake by consequence of reason deducing such hope out of Gods word though not express, The Lord made good the word of his servant the Prophet, and so the widdow and he and her house did eat thereof many dayes. She afforded one meal to him, his ministery procured many meales to her and hers, and fed her with spiritual sweetning of hope for continuance of bleffing to them and him, hoping foby consequence of Gods word in that the Lord faid I have commanded her to sustein thee, the Lord of all using mercifully to bless them with sufficiency whosoever obey him commanding for good to the obedient; By confequence whereof Elias bid her not fear what she had feared, untimely death of her and her son together, Which the good affection of the Mother would have to survive after her decease for a living memoriall of her Name and Kindred to posterity, but if he dye before her, her foul more dreadeth

Chap. 6. Numb. 1.

it than dying with her, which I bid her not fear: what will be faid there among the Gentiles, where Ibid her not fear, and that in thy Name O God of hope the Lord God of Israel? How shall thy name be Sanctified by thy Servant a fugitive from Ifrael, If Imust be fugitive hence also from amongst the Gentiles? asking what to do with me there: Hast thou no blessings nor mercies for them by thy Servant? and he cried unto the Lord and faid, O Lord my God, Hast thou brought evill upon this Widdow with whom I sojourn by slaying her Son? Is it for evill? And not at extreme opportunity rather for greater good in thy rich Mercy? Mercy thou treasurest up for them that dwell in thy blessed enjoyment for everlasting; But would not that be more loved and thy name magnified if here were an outward token of thy gracious dealing with thy Servant sent hither as on purpose-that thy Glory may shing among the Nations? in hope of which desireable among the Nations, and confequence of such hope Elias cryed unto the Lord and faid; O Lord, my God, I pray thee let this Childs Soul come unto him again; And the Lord heard the voice of Elias, and the soul of the Child came into him again, and he revived. This Christ called to mind in that his Catechisticall Lecture after Baptism, Luke 4. When he said the word Prophetiquely foretold was that day performed, by consequence whereof the Church of the Gentiles hopeth good intended thereby to her young Children in Christ his fullfilling his prayer at Baptilin, being more powerful & his heart more pittiful in joyning his effectuall prayer with the prayers Resurrection from the dead assured in Baptism. 61

of tender-hearted mothers, & the prayers of Mini-Chap. 6. sters in tenderness of Spirit as Mothers to beget Numb. 1. a new life of the Spirit, as John Baptist in the spirit of Elias, Elias procuring Oyl for preservation of the Childs life, & restitution of life after death, By consequence hope much more in Christ the Lord both of Elias and John; and the Lord of Life and Death's Christ his promise being express for grant of the Spirit unto Children upon the prayers of Parents whose Spirit is the more rooted in themselves therby, like as this Widdow of sarepta procured the continuall Supply of Oyl to Her self and her son by continuall dependance on the word of God sent by Elias, though not express; but in this by consequence of good reason in prayer Our Mother Church Ministery promiseth in Christs name the Spirit like Oyl to the Children of faithfull Parents at Baptism: Which some divert, abhor, and blaspheme, and in that blasphemy for sake the Mother-Church of England and her baptism, and her Ministery for so baptising Infants.

Thus while they refuse to believe the Sanctification of the Spirit at Infant-Baptism, their faith faileth about their own Baptism, that Oil ceaseth to them and their Children by their own confession, and so they run into the Wilderness after new devises: God in mercy call back, or hold us and others back from following them, and make us faithfull and thankfull for the Graces of our Baptism, and dutifull in performing the vowes and promifes thereof in forfaking the Devil & all his workes, that the Devil may have no more powerover us or ours, in sinfull waies of the world or flesh; that we

may

Chap. 6. Numb. 1. may believe the Articles of our Christian faith, doing the will of God in his Commandements as his

Children: a Gospel way of Love.

Christin this (4 of Luke) after Baptism mindeth of two more Prophetique Instances, both from the figurative service of Elisha by his double portion of Elias his spirit, designed chief in succession of his Ministery; the first implyed, the second expressed: that implied was of the like success in restitution of life by that succeeding Minister at the like importunate intreaty for a Child; and if you will rather minde the other widdow complayning that she and her sonnes were to be sold to pay the debts of her husband (a Sonne of the Prophets) by mutuall interest of Parents and Children as One; by consequence whereof as Children were liable to fuffer towards discharge, of their Parents debts, Parents ought to have prevented the Childrens sufferings by discharge of those debts, those debts being discharged by the Oyl figurative of Grace; By consequence the Parents ought to have provided, & one failing, the other ought & did by prayer with Elifia provide for the Childrens redemption, in event by Oil then, by Grace now in Christ redeeming Children from the debts of their parents faults: and borrowing vessels from their Neighbours houses, that they also might bee filled as with oyl of Elisha, with grace of Christ.

That other expressed was of Naaman (helped by direction of a good wish from his wife her captive little maid) a noble instance of hopely probability by divine Providence as it were on purpose apted for the great Syrian, Assyrian, Scythian, or Barbarian,

all

all one in Christ, not to disdain helpers bond or chap. 6. free, since God the Holy Ghost hath sanctified the Numb.1. duties of Servants to their Masters 1 Tim. 6.1. and the faithfull wives 1 Pet. 3.16. to win their Husbands unto the honour of his Holy Name, and powerfull doctrine by Ministeriall intercession of Elisha for that Leper whose slesh became like the slesh of a young child by washing in Jordan, where Christ was to be baptized, for accomplishment of his Mysticall washing away sinnes both of old and young, as the children of Israel young and old passed through Jordan into the land of promise in si-

gure of Christs Kingdome.

The figurative passage of Mercy for Children at Jordan, where the spirit of Elias & Elisha both in pasfing were discerned by the children of the Prophets. 2 Kings 2. A lesson of the Spirit of Prophesie looking toward the Spirit Elias-like in John Baptizing at Jordan, under Christ his Almighty Spirit for Sanctification of Baptism, Originally there, where the waters were so divided for passage of safety to the glory of the Spirit [And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from fordan] This solemne Repetition was not in vain at the beginning of the 4th. Chapter of Luke's Gospel, where Christ premiseth the mention of these Prophets Elias and Elisha sent to the Gentiles, against the malignant Jewes ready there to have cast him down headlong from the brow of the hill whereon there City was built: perverting to evill in envy toward the Gentiles what Christ intended for mercy both to Gentiles and Jewes in favour of our purpose. Thus the Spirit of Elias rested in Elista, and John Baptift

Of John Baptist his Spirit.

64. Chap. 6. Numb.1.

Baptist came in the spirit of Elias a Fore runner of Christ the Lord of the same spirit baptized at Jordan being Author of Baptism and ordainer of Sanctification through the same Baptismal Spirit of Unity to his Glory.

The Spirit of Elias and Elissa was efficacious by prayer for mercy to young Children of the Gentiles.

The Spirit of John Baptist was the Spirit of Elias

and Elisha.

Therefore the Spirit of John Baptist was a Spirit efficacious in prayer for mercy to young Children of the Gentiles.

The Strength of this increaseth by Christ his praise of John Baptist as more than a Prophet: And therefore his spirit by neerness unto Christ, likely to be more efficacious in prayers for mercy both in Power and Act of efficaciousness as at fulfilling, This day is this Scripture fulfilled in your eares, Luke 4. 21. about the Spirit anointing, and delivering, and accepting, as the acceptable year of the Lord, accepting in mercy Young and Old; And this acceptableness in Spirit like sweet healing Oyl being mentioned by the providence of Christ (anointed with the Holy Ghost) upon his baptizing the great Messias anointed above his Fellows. Pf. 45. In his focietie to be anointed under him, as his by Covenant of Grace: That Grace as precious anointing oyl may bleffedly flow from his Head-ship down on them as members of his body, so baptised in his Spirit of Christianity. Thus by reasonable and mighty consequence of applyplying to the baptisinall spirit Efficaciousnes like that of Elias and Elisha by prayer effectuals for

mercy

mercy to young Children of the Gentiles, mercy Chap. 6. to be so baptized into the Spirit of Christ, alike the Numb. 2. Saviour of Gentiles as of Jewes.

And behold a like Argument of Gracious Effi- Numb. 2.

eacy for the Jewes and their young Children in that the blessed Apostle James in his Epistle general to the twelve Tribes scattered abroad, chap. 1. Warranting them to speed when they ask in faith of God the Father of lights, who giveth liberally to his Children, of his own will begat heeus with the word of Truth, that wee should bee a kinde of first fruits of his Creatures, according to the Prophetique word, Jeremi. 2.3. Ifrael holiness to the Lord, the first Fruites of his increase: Applied to all the Families in Israel, v. 4. & 9. Wherefore I will yet plead with you saith the Lord, and with your Childrens Children will I plead: All engaged in that holiness according to Gods Ordinance of the figurative Fruits, sanctified and sanctifying others. Rom, chap. 11. If the first Fruits be holy, the lump is also holy. Yea and in offering the fruits, the Israelites persons were offered also to be first Fruits as first Possessors of that holy Land, in duties to be holy to the praise of God in Profession and in Prayer. Deut. 26. In profession: Thou shalt take the first of all the Fruit of the Land, and say unto the Priest, I profess this day unto the Lordthy God, that I am come into the Countrey which the Lord sware unto our Fathers to give us, (mark how they were included at first as Children, and in conscience then of the like Duty to include Children) I have brought the first fruits of the Land, v. 9. & v. 13. I have brought the hallowed things & given to the Fatherless and widdow

Numb. 2.

dows. I have done according to althat thou hast commanded - And then in prayer unto the Lord God, Look down from thy holy Habitation, from Heaven, and bless thy people Israel - Thou haft professed or avouched the Lord this day to be thy God: And the Lord hath avouched thee this day to be his peculiar People: They and their Little Children in Covenant with God, chap. 29. partakers in the bleffing, chap. 2.v.4. Bleffed shalbe the Fruit of thy Body. As the Fatherless and Widdowes partaked in the Profession and Prayer at oblation of the first Fruits, in reference whereunto the bleffed Apostle James praiseth it as the pure Religion to visit the Fatherless and Widdowes: The word opear entendeth to the least Pupils that see not how to help themselves, as in The dark of ignorance, for help whereof the visit here in the Greek is imineration from which the Pastor or Elder is called em suoms, implying the Pastorall Act of Ministery for Orphans help: A religious act toward them for their Sanctification amongst the blessed fruits of Israel. And that oblation of Fruits being an Act commanded for the time after their possession of the holy Land as a figure, must have answerable truth under Christ his Kingdom of Grace for their young Children.

That interest of Israels young Children at their return (the third sort of Branches) hath surther growth by this Thundring Apostle James, blessedly showred out in that rain of Elias, who shewed himself before a ready Friend in effectuall prayer for that Widdowes little Child among the Nations: And his own Country men beleeving that (as he said) there should be no rain but at his word for

three

three yeares and an half, long enough to bring chap. 6.. them into extremity like that of another dearth. Ier. Numb. 2

14 Their Nobles sent their little Ones to seek, but finding no water they returned with their vessels empty3 Their little ones in what sense soever needed help, no marvell if they fent into every Nation to feek elias his help who by Gods command was found of faithfull Obadiah; And the heavens gave a little sign of rain first like a man's hand, and then great abundance of rain, and the Earth brought forth fruit, from little beginnings abundance of fruit. Almighty God hath a great delight in cherishing the Little by degrees to encourage the Progress of Zeal in prayers with fervency to procure efficacy through the Spirit of prayer in Elders of the Church scattered abroad to mind Little Ones as Elias did: Although his prayer be not expressed in the Storie, but by consequence, enough for St. James to say that Elias prayed again, and the Heavens gave rain. If you will not allow alike consequence of effectuall praier for Orphans and other young Children to be sanctified among the first fruits as the first born formerly towards sanctifying others, 1. Kings 19. 3. Behold Elias in Zeal of the Covenant fugitive again for life: Hee came to Beersheba blessed to Abraham, Gen. 21. blessed again to Isaac, Gen. 26. 23. 33. By interpretation the well of oath, for him and his Posterity, degenerated fince into the condition of Hagarenes. Galath. 4. And so needing again the Angels invitation to Beersheba the well of oath which gave denomination to that Country; where behold the Lord afisting Iacob and his children with K 2 their

Beersheba the Well of Oath a pattern of Baptism.

68 Chap. 6. Numb. 2.

their little ones, Gen. 46. 3. 5. The angell of the Lord faluting Elias again, & fending him to oridan Elisha to be successor in his Spirit of Ministery for the remnant of Israel beloved for the Fathers sake, for Isaac who made an Oath of Covenant for his posterity there at the holy well of Oath, Beersbeba fitly patterning the Fathers of the Remnant of Israelites at their hoped return under Covenant for their Children at the waters of Baptism, as Isaiab foreshewed chap. 52. vers. 4, 7, 8, 15. The son of God in that appearance of his glory fitted the premises for application to the baptismal-blessing-Mystery, for as much as Elias in Spirit was forerunner of John Baptist who baptized Christ, and Christ after his baptism alleged the practise of Elias, and the angell of Christs Kingly presence assisted Elias, who came for life to that well of oath, and thence in Zeal of the covenant unto death after sacred ordination of his successor in the Ministery for reducing the remnant of Israelites under Covenant: And both Elias and his succesfor Elisha praying effectually to the Lord of Glory for Young Children: And the Evangelist Iohn cap. 12. Affirming it to be Christs Glory, which Esaias faw, chap. 6. & 7. Esaias being bid by the Lord to take with him his son, whosename by interpretation is [The Remnant shall return] when he was to give the Prophetique sign of Christ. Thus the promise of the Remants returning unto Christ was sent by the name of Esaiah his son, the nomination using to beatthetime of sealing the Covenant unto them in Childhood; how this appertaineth unto their haptism, it more will appear anon.

The.

The Remnant of Israel were not to leave the Chap. 6. Children out of the new Covenant at their return Numb. 2. which Prophetically was brought unto their Children, as Disciples by this lesson in their very names, and for allaying the tedious nights, and carefull daies of Nursery, consider the reward everlasting, for what is done or suffered about Gods Children the fons and daughters of Jerusalem, after return unto the love of Christ her dear Husband. And I-Saiab 66. Rejoyce with Jerusalem, that yee may suck and be satisfied with the brests of her consolations, for thus saith the Lord, Behold I will extend peace to her like a River, and the Glory of the Gentiles like a flowing stream, and then shall yee suck; yee shall be dandled upon her knees, as one whom his Mother comforteth; likewaies Hosea chap. 2. 14. I will speak comfortably unto her (23.) I will have mercy upon her that had not obtained mercy: Of the house of Israel faith the Lord (verse 2.) She is not my wife (verse 4.) I will not have mercy upon her Children.

This change of Israel from having Gods mercy to be without mercy, reached from the Parents to their Children, after which another Change of them that were without mercy was to bring them

under the new Covenant of mercy.

But the Children were without mercy.

Therefore the new Covenant of mercy was for

Children also.

Yea and that it might be known to conclude them in their Childhood the Lord revealed this great Mystery to the Prophet in the names which the Lord prescribed for the young Children of that Prophet, Hosea chap. 1. It shall come to pass that K. 3

Children sealed under Covenant of Mercy.

Chap. 6. Numb. 2.

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in the place where it was said yee are not my People; There it shall be said unto them the sons of the living God: Upon this change followeth that command; Say unto your Brethren [Ammi] that is, my People: And to your Sisters [Ruhamah] that is, having obtained mercy] Behold the Children of the Prophets Hosea and Isaiah Children under Covenant of mercy for signes to the house of Israel in their

changes.

Children sealed under Govenant, as prophetical signes to foreshew the sealing of children under the New Covenant of mercy: When the Children of Israel return and seek the Lord their God, and David their King (in his Son Christ) In the latter dayes, Hosea chap 3.5. and chap 2.15.18 I will give her the valley of Achor for a door of a hope, And she shall sing there as in the dayes of her youth, When she had newly sealed her Children at Gilgal the way to that their door of hope betwixt their place of bondage and ferusalem their holy place of rest in peace and mercy, there groweth the Tree of life wherein they are to be regrafted Rom.11.

Such as were cut off through unbelief are to be

grafted in again by faith.

Children are to be grafted in again through faith, that God may be glorified for his mercy to such as had no mercy.

Children had not mercy when they were cut off

for their Parents unbelief.

Children are to find mercy when through their Parents faith in the New Covenant they are to bee grafted in again: such being grafted into Christ, Rom. 11. as were complanted with Christ at Bap-

tism (Rom. 6.) according to the sense of the Pro- Chap. 7. phets children sealed young to be signes for the Church of Christ to learn this lesson of mercy for sealing her young in Christs name, Hosea 14. like dem to Israel, his branches shall spread, and his beauty hall be as the Olive Tree; they that dwell under his shadow shall return: O Israel return unto the Lord God, for thou hast fallen by thine own iniquity; take with you words and say, Take away all iniquity, and receive us gratiously; who is wife and he shall under stand?prudent, and he shall know them? as this hath a reflection of like comfort unto us Gentiles for our Infants Baptisin, since they were to find mercy in our mercy, Rom. 11. both concluded alike in mercy without difference. The Jew and the Gentile one in Christ.

CHAP. VII.

Numb. 1. Children of Primitive beleeving Jewes the fourth sort of branches, under tutors at first, yet heirs, had right to Baptisme seal of the New Covenant. Numb. 2. The Covenant the same in substance; what are substantitialls: the Infant correlative principall. Numb. 3. The young express in the New Covenant.

Numb. 3. The young express in the New Covenant.

Fourth fort of Branches.

72 Chap. 7. Numb. 1.

NUMBER I.



O did it most specially prepare to bless Chlidren of the Primitive Christian Jewes, whose Children are the fourth sort of branches complanted with Christ, and in Christ, at Baptism as under the Covenant of mercy, which then

began (according to the Prophet Hosea, praised Rom. 10.) though it were to be more accomplished at the return of Israel unto Christ their David Prince of the Covenant, extending Armes of Mercy to young and old; he useth not to take away privilege from any without their default, The Children of beleeving Jewes in Christs time had committed no fault in their Infancy to lose their privilege of their form

mer sealed inheritance.

Had the most mercifull God of Israel exacted of those Infants; blood in his Covenant of Circumcision for nothing? onely that his Seal of Covenant might remain in their flesh, to betoken thereby no bleffing covenanted in Christ? no truth answerable to that figure? no substance but emptiness at that fulness of time for fulfilling all things by Christ his fulness, to fill all in all, the small vessells as well as the great? this Ordinance of Ceremonies under that stile[for ever] had right for ever to some blessed accomplishment in him; the Sun of Righteousness had warmth for the least in Covenant with him. Infants while Infants (as his in Covenant) had certainly right to what he gave and promised by his servants Ministers then: whose word he maketh good and condecondescended for himself to be tryed by their word chap. 7. which they had from him: Hee is rich in mercy Numb I... to all for whom he is called on: And his gifts

to all for whom he is called on: And his gifts are without repentance, as a most mercifull Father, specially to the Children of Israel whom he made Judge in their own cause [What could I have done more to my Vineyard, that I have not done in it?

Isaiah 5.

Gal. the 4th. The Heir while he is a child is under Tutors untill the time appointed by the Father. Even To wee were children: But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his son made of a woman made under the Law to redeem them that were under the Law; Were not Infants under the Law? was not the price of his redemption enough for them also? Did he reject them after he had so dearly redeemed them, Unless they afterwards ungratefully rejected him? Infants while Infants under the Law were acknowledged Heirs of all by the holy Ghost; though at the time appointed by the Fathers higher elevation of Spirit in duties answerable to higher occasion of dignities are ordained, yet the same persons Heirs still: though under greater manifestations of the Fathers will, yet in truth for the same blessed inheritance, granted by the Steward, confirmed by the Lord; sealed at first by the servant, afterwards sealed by the son of God Christ the true Lord of all, in brotherly kindness offering to make his Confederates Joynt-Heires: First by the seal of more special commission to the Children of Israel, afterwards by the great seal of his Commis-fion for all Nations. The former Speciall, The lat-

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Heires to both Covenants.

Chap. 7. Numb. 1.

ter Generall, but national Commissions both.

The prayers of faithfull Israelites (as that of David Ps. 83. was) against their spirit as Malignant who would have Israel cut off from being a Nation. Jeremiah chap. 33. 24. the Lord himfelf observeth, Thus they have despised my people, that they should be no more a Nation before me: But allegeth his own Covenant as sure as that with Heaven and Earth to the contrary. Ezek. chap. 37. Thus saith the Lord God, I will take the Children of Israel from among the Heathen, and I will make them one Nation, and I will make a Covenant of Peace with them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Rom. chap. 11. 2. God hath not cast a-

way his People.

The New Covenant was their Nationall Covenant first, Heb. chap. 8. 8. as their speciall preferment, Rom. 3. 2. and chap. 9. 4. to be the first fruits, a pattern of other Nations, Rom. chap. 15. as preseribed in Gods own holy directions, Deut. 32. for other Nations to joyn with them, while they and their little ones were in Covenant with God, as one people, Deut. 29. 11. Isaiah chap. 60. 12. The Nation that will not serve thee shall perish; For accomplishment of Prophecies, John is to prophecy before many people and Nations, Rev. chap. 10. 11. and Rev. chap. 22. The leaves of the Tree of life are upon, the first discovery (that myfticall way) to heal the Nations; And then the 12 fruits of that Tree for the twelve Tribes, according to the prayerfull predictions and benedictions of Jacob and Moses, in the new City of God, whose 12 Gates have the Names of the 12 Tribes

of Israel for all Nations to enter as fellow-Citi-Chap. 7. zens in the Covenant of holiness and peace to Numb. 2.

find Christ our beginning and end there.

To this glory, bleffing, and nationall way, whether in special for his people Israel, or in generall for other Nations to joyn with them by vertue of his all-power, Math. 28. ordaining a Successive ministery for all ages to baptize and teach what he commanded; not excepting that command [suffer little Children to come unto me] to come in the Armes of their Parents to partake in his blessings, as by their Parents sinsulfulness they are infected with our first-Parents sins.

The Children of beleeving Jewes had right to help by their Parents Faith and Charities procuring them to be fealed within the Covenant of

Mercy.

The Nation comprehendeth Infants, as the

whole comprehendeth each part.

Neither is there any word express in holy writ for excluding Infants from under the command of baptizing the Nations, as if they either were not baptized, or ought not, being formerly sealed

under Gods Covenant.

The Covenant is the same still in Essence though Numb. 2. for the change of Circumstances (some ceasing and others succeding, as the Lord of the Govenant willeth) it is for distinction sake called old in respect of the ceasing, and new in respect of succeding circumstances: The covenants be the same in essence, according to Gods Oath, Luk. chap. 1.72. To remember his holy Covenant, the Oath which he sware to our Father Abraham that he would

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grant

Both Covenants one in Substance.

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grant unto us: Gal. 3. The Gospell was preached before unto Abraham, when the Lord said, In thee shall all Nations be blessed, Gen. 12, and 22. By my self have I sworn saith the Lord, In thy seed shall all Nations of the Earth be blessed. This is the Matter covenanted.

And fecondly the Form is an agreement fealed, forthough a promise might hold without a seal, yet when it is agreed to be sealed, then it is Null if it remain unsealed: God after his promise of Salvation willing to enter Covenant with man, for further assurance agreed to have it sealed by a token. And in that sense he called the token by the name of Covenant, as it were intimating the Covenant to be void if not sealed, as agreed, Gen. 17.10, 11. This is my Covenant which yee shall keep betwixt me and you and your seed after you, it shall be a token of the Covenant betwixt me and you.

After such agreement the token or seal is called the Covenant, as essentiall to the Covenant, which is Papists would hear they needed not dream of Christ transubstantiated, the token as a seal assuring the benefit agreed on, though the matter of the seal bebut circumstantiall, as in Contracts of men whether their seal be wood or brass. So the Covenant of God for our pardon ought to be sealed as covenanted, though whether the seal be sless or water, that was a circumstance, changed, not at our pleasure, but as pleased the

supreme heavenly power in pardoning.

Thirdly the Covenant being a relative agreement, the Correlatives are essentiall as agreed betwixt God and Man, correlative; Parents and Children, great Chap. 7. and small, principally the small in truth of this Numb.2. clause in the agreement, the Child Christ being included: as the promise was made principally to the feed expressed alone, Gen. 3. So the Covenant principally to Christ the Seedmost blessed, and bleffing others, the feed of the woman, the feed of Abraham, the feed of David covenanted in unity of Person to be God who covenanted with Man: the Son of God in unity of Person to be the Son of Man, sealed to be the Mediator betwixt God and Man, Parents and Children, great and small, sealed small as agreed by himself in his God-head covenanting with Man to be sealed in childhood, with obligation of duty to pay in fulness of time the ransonu for Mans redemption at his death by the blood of Everlasting Covenant to Justifie the circumcised in heart.

The mercies and blessings of the Circumcission in heart appertaining by Gods promise to young children with their Parents upon their entring into Covenant with God as formerly proved, Deut. chap. 29.11. & 30.6. the Covenant of love to be sealed inwardly by the Spirit, outwardly by Gods Ordinance, though the manner of that Seal were a circumstance, yet needfull, as commanded by God though diversly, first by Circumcission alone, at last by Baptism alone, but by both at the sulness of time to compleat all in Christ, who being circumcised was also to be baptized to sulfill all Righteousness: all extendeth unto Jewes and Gentiles treading in the steps of the faith of faithfull Abraham, sealed with the seal of righteousness by faith as believing:

Chap. 7. Numb. 2.

beleeving Gods everlasting Covenant to be God unto him and to his feed as their God: That clause of the Covenant to be [their God] being the principall object of faith, as interessing him and them in Christ the blessed feed to bless all Nations and Families on earth to find righteoufness in faith by Christ in that everlasting Covenant for them and their Children sealed, as Abraham found Righteousnels by faith for himself and his Children though fealed young, under Covenant of faith binding them in their appointed season also to beleeve in him unto their Justification, for which the Prophet Jeremy said chap. 23. This is the name whereby he shall be called [The Lord our Righteousness] in mercy so far exceeding the deliverance of Fathers with their Children out of Ægypt, as if that were no more to be named in comparison of this, where Fathers and Children are delivered from the wrath of God, the curse of the Law, and power of Satan and Hell, and admitted into the Kingdom of God as partakers of Ghrists righteousness put on them by vertue of their faith in the Covenant for them and for their Children brought under Covenant with them, that Christ his fulfilling all righteousness in the new Covenant under seal of Baptism, may thus reach them with his Covenant bleffing, revealed under the new Testament, veiled under the Old, in effence thus the same through the meditation of that bleffed feed Christ the Child sealed, as by the former seal, so by the latter, to become Mediatour of the Covenant of Salvation unto them that would apply the same under

Jcr.16.14.

the New seal unto which they have right through chap. 7. the former Seal of Righteousness by faith in God: Numb. 2. The eyes of faith which faw the day-star of the Prophets in dreams and types, might and ought to have perceived this sun of righteousness arising, if they had not winked with their eyes, and yet boasted as if they saw reason in worldly policy, for which the wrath of God remained on them, and on their Children through unbelief refusing the right eousness of Christ at Baptism, that might and ought to have sealed unto them, and their young Children this essence of the Covenant, depending thus on that clause for sealing principally the young, otherwaies void both toward the Children and toward their Parents.

Toward their Children, Gen. 17.14. The uncircumcised Male his Soul shall be cut off from his people: Hee hath broken my Covenant, that was to be in the flesh, an everlasting Covenant for everlasting good, but upon breach for everlasting condemnation of his foul to be cut off for ever; in which sense the word is doubled, Numb. 15. 31. That soul shall be cut off in cutting off, in this world, and cut off in the world to come, his iniquity leing upon him: And while iniquity remaineth the wrath of God is remaining toward the Parents, though circumcized, yet obnoxious for neglecting the circumcision of their Children. Exod. 4. The Lord met Moses and sought to kill him: But upon circumcision of his son; Zipporah (by way of Plea in form of fœderall claim) might say a husbaud of bloods thou art to me, and he (the Lord Jehovah) letting him go, she might faith-

fully

Chap. 7. Numb. 1. fully and thankfully say a husband of bloods for circumcisions: blood in the Circumcision of her hu band, and blood in the Circumcision of her son and their Posterity that had been cut off if not fanctified with that outward feal of Circumcision; hearing the Lords threatning (to cut off) in the very same words, from circumcision of Children, Gen. 17. 14. applied under the new Covenant, Act. 3. 23? about them that were admitted to the new seal of baptism; betwixt such fear and hope would the religious Fathers of If-rael have dared to leave their Children unfealed without express countermaund for not sealing them? would not they else desire earnestly both as a comfort in their own hearts, and an honour and safeguard unto their Children to have them outwardly sealed for distinction fake as the Lords people? would the Lord abbreviate his covenant which he sware to enlarge, that his Glory might fill the Earth (Numb. 14.) in that promised bleffing for all Nations and all Families? as for the honour of the Lord who created the whole Nation and redeemed the whole Nation, is the whole Nation claymed for his holy name unto his service by the seal of Sanctification which hee fent for the whole nation needing his help, all we like Sheep have gone aftry, & the Lord layed on him the Iniquity of us all, Esaias 52. As a Lamb for the transgression of my people——Thus he offered for sin. And expressed care of the Lambs as his, in love to them, as well as the sheep, in that threefold charge of love commended unto Peter, it was the Lord who said All scules are mine, the sonles of the Chilling

dren as well as of the Fathers, Ezek. 18. he profest Chip. 7. sing himself to come unto the lost sheep of the house Numb. 3. of Israel: By this light we may see to whom he sent his word of salvation by Eaptism. Math. 3.5. All Judga went and were baptized of him; though not (all) particularly, yet (all) generally, without restraint of any fort or age. Their confession also might be generally without confession particularly. John preached repentance to (all) people of israel. Acts 13.14.

Thus the presentment of Gods' rich mercies (at performance of what he promised) ought not to lessen the parents hope of their Childrens benediction through the blessed seed as if now unsealed unto them in the new, though formerly

fealed in the old Covenant.

The new Covenant extending also to Chil-Numb. 3. dren expressly by most merciful provision of the holy Ghost. Jeremiah chap. 32. 38, 39, 40. They shall be my people and I will be their God, and I will give them one heart and one way, that they may fear me for ever (all dayes) for the good of them and their Children after them: And I will make an everlasting Covenant with them, that I will not turn away from them to do them good: But I will put my fear in their hearts, that they shall not (or will not) depart from we.

Thus the Lord interpreteth the sense of his own promise in the next precedent chap. of Jeremiah 31. 31. I will make a new Govenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah; house here comprehending the Children by such express interpretation of the Lord: Therefore it also comprehendeth Children in that recitall of the new

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The new Covenant exprest for Infants.

Chap. 7. Numb. E.

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Covenant by the holy Ghost after Christs time, Hebrewes chap. 8. 8. The name of house comprehending Children and all therein, unless exception thereof be found; when Jerusalem and all Judea went to John's baptism, exception of their Little Ones is neither expressed nor implied, but rather the contrary, for that the Mothers did carry the Little Ones in their Arms at fuch new wonderfull presentments. Matth. chap. 14. 21. They that. had eaten were about five thousand, besides women and children, chap. 19. 13. then were there brought. unto Christ Little Children that he should put his hands on them and pray. Hebrews chap. 6. 2. Imposition of hands following after Baptismes in the plurallnumber; baptism of old and young among principles of religion; for though some were as babes new born in the Spirit, yet that excludeth not, but rather includeth the babes new born in body by vertue of comparison.

If the sense had been that onely such young menare admitted into this Kingdom of Christ as are in meekness like unto young Children, it had been a reason of such grown mens access: would Christ have alleged others interest in his Kingdom as reason of his command about Little childrens access unto him without interest of the Little children, as if they and others such Little ones were not in that his Kingdom subjects of his love and beneficence? Jesus said, Suffer little Children to come unto me and forbid them not, for of such is the Kingdom of heaven, into which none can enter unless he be born of mater and of the spirit, John 3. 5. behold Baptismall regeneration appointed as

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the entrance into the Kingdom of God. They chap. 7. therefore had right unto Baptismall regenerati- Numb. 3. on who by Christs appointment had right unto the Kingdom: But those little children had right unto the Kingdom, and for confirmation thereof Christ imposed his hands on them, and affirmatively commanded their access unto him, and negatively forbad the prohibition of them or of fuch other Little children indefinitely for their access unto such effect, as perteining to his Kingdomiand forget we not Christ his protestation, That all must be like children who shall enter into the Kingdom of God; come therefore all old Men, and old Chilstian Women, profess your consents unto what was promifed for you in hope of what was promised unto you at baptisme in the name of Christ as his members to be joynt-heires of this Kingdom of heaven, that you may fay with our blessed Apostle the pattern of mercy to us Gentiles, I have sinished my course, and with old Simeon about to depart in peace according to what was revealed unto him by the holy Ghost after he had seen that in Isaiah thrice blotted out by him, and thrice wonderfully reprinted at last in golden letters about the son of a virgin, as it was said, old men should dream dreames, blessedly becomming twice Children, as new born babes in the milk of the word tasting how gracious the Lord is to such as in the Spirit of David having engaged their Children under the Covenant of God, behave them selves as his weaned Children, in such humiliation, the Pfalmist framing the 25: Psalm by the letters of the Hebrew alphabet, what M 2

Chap. 7. Numb.3. what sweet lessons of Gods Covenant were there taught? And Ps. 34. & 37. & Ps. 111. & Ps. 12. sometimes two verses unto every letter, sometimes two letters for a verse: And in that longest Ps. 119. 8 verses for every letter in the alphabet, leaving omega for Christ.

As the Locks having upon many wheeles letters to be joyned in a certain before they can open, so the great mysteries are locked up until the

word be found.

Is not that the word of Christ Revel. 21. 6. yeyera, I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning & the end: It is done in Christ the Temple, the Lamb, all in all: the Angell of his presence reinstiled Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, for all in Christ, the first and the last, Rev. 22. 13. Be silent all controversies of imaginaries before Christ, or after Christ, that his simiting Angell may be stayed in mercy, which God grant in Jesus. Amen.

CHAP. VIII.

Angels Infants guardians. Numb.2. Infants of Patriarks, preserved at waters in figure. Numb. 3. Men Angels, the Prophet called Angel, Angelicall and Evangelicall ministery for engagement of Baptized Infants in the blessings of the Covenant.

Number 1.

Chap. 8.

Atthew 18. 10. Take heed that ye despise not Numb. 1.

one of these little ones, for I say unto you not you hat its Use that Use that its Use that its Use that Use that Use the Use the Use the Use the Use that Use the Use the

that in Heaven their Angels doe alwaies behold the face of my Father which is in Heaven six marris, a very generall word for the readiness of those heavenly messengers attentive to serve Gods good pleasure at any time, any way, upon any occasion, for the Children as members of Christ their Lord, Mark 9.37. Whosoever shall receive one of such Children in my name receivet h me : Christ accompteth the Childrens good, his own, having interest in that their common cause under the bloodthirsty commission of Herod (subordinate Agent of Roman cruelty) to kill the young children in hope of destroying Christ among them: But as Christ was delivered by the Message of an Angell, hecalleth fuch heavenly messengers the Childrens Angels.

Herods Edict for killing all the children that were two yeares old and under, was overcome by Christs

heavenly prædict for them.

If you plead such Infants saved though unbaptized, it was (before institution of Baptism) by vertue of Circumcission, or if any uncircumsicized (as the Son of Herod or of other Gentiles) had then their soules accepted, it was the superabundance of Christs compassion towards them that suffered for him a Baptism of blood (anciently so called) not that they could be saved by such washing of their own blood, but by the blood of Christ in his supposed free love unto them, exceeding the love of Joseph unto his Brethren, for them and their

Chap. 8. Numb. 1.

Little ones, Gen. 45. 19. and 46. 15. for which the Church of Ifrael was called Rachel, Mat. 2. as Ieremiah 31.5. Rachel mourning for her children: Thus Saith the Lord, refrain thy voice from neeping, and thine eyes from teares, for thy mork shall be remarded faith the Lord, A reward to her comfort for her little Children, not onely those Children so slain; for Christs abundant mercies appear to the childrens Children in the precedent and subsequent expresses of that Prophet Jeremiah, as chap.31. v. 1. I wil be the God of all Families of Israel, saith the Lord. (7.) Sing with gladness for Jacob, and say, O Lord save the remnant of Israel. (8.) 1 will gather them from the Coasts of the earth, and the woman with Child and her that travelleth with Child. (9.) I am a father to Israel, Ephraim is my first born, partaking of the Primogeniture, though the younger, referring to the benediction of Iacob, The Angell which redeemed me from all evill (the Angell visionally, presentative Christ our Redeemer) bless the Lad (10.) Hear the word of the Lord yee Nations, and declare it among the Isles afar off: Hee that scattereth Israel will gather him, and keep him as a Shepheard his flock.(12.) sing for the young of the flock and of the herd, and their Soules shall be as a watered Garden. (20.) Ephraim is my dear Son, a pleasant Child, for since I spake against him I do earnestly remember him stil, therefore my bowells are troubled for him, I will surely have mercy upon him saith the Lord: Thus the Lord expresseth his mercies by the bowels of love to the Ifraelites, as to Ephraim a child. (27.) The dayes come faith the Lord, that I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of man, (29.) a signification of halhallowing their young successively, In those dayes Chap. 8. they shall say no more, The Fathers have eaten sown Numb. 1. grapes, and the childrens teeth are set an edge; (30.) Every one shall dye for his own iniquity, every man that eateth the sown grapes his teeth shall be set an

edge.

Original sin being forgiven in Baptism by the new Covenant which God promiseth in the following words, to remember their fins no more: 34. This being the bleffed Mercy promised unto fuch as escape from Babylon accursed for her crnelty; specially toward young Children, for which Elisha wept, 2 Kings 8.12. Esaias complained, chap. 13. 16. with a threat, as rf. 137.9. and Jeremiah magnifieth it as the vengeance of the Lord, chap. 50. 29. & 51.11.64. behold as the destruction of old Babylon was signified by casting a stone into thewater, Amighty Angel cast a great Milstone into the Sea, Rev. 18. Saying thus with violence shall be thrown down. that great City Babylon, in whose forhead is written Mystery, the Mother of Harlots, in which is to be found the blood of all slain upon the earth, Rev. 18. For which they shall rise up in judgement against her both great and small: Infants of votaries in single life without the gift of Chastity for shame in secret murthering them unbaptized in danger of his wrath as dreadfully denounced, Luk. 17.2. Wo be to him by whom offences come, it were better for him that a Millstone were hanged about his neck and he cast into the sea, then that he should offend one of these little ones: one of these little ones: or hindring him from Christ, to come as they could by,

Chap. 8. Numb. I.

by others help unto Christ, and be joyned with him in his name, in his compassion weeping because when he would their parents would not suffer him to gather their Children as a hen her chicken, and bid the company of women not to weep for him but to weep for themselves and their Children, for the miseries to come upon them by the Roman of the new Babylon under that Imperiall headship of cruell Rome oppressive of Christians then, after whose deliverance, Revel. chap. 21 4. and 6. with the promise of wiping away all tears, is a promise to give of the Fountaine of the waters of life freely, the same which Isaiah 55. his proclamation expounded by buying milke with-out money, Milk is for Children, and so for Chil-the wiping away teares, the tears of all the Tribes, by the angell of Christs presence officiating Rev. chap. 1.7.13. chap. 3.7. affuming to himself the accomplishing of Eliakims charge Isaiah chap. 22.22. and by consequence of his glory (24.) The Offspring and the issue, all vessels of small quantity from the vessels of cups even so all the vessels of Flaggons or vialls, to be purified by washing] the Angell over ordering all other angells as from the beginning to the end.

Numb. 2.

The Angell promising victory to and by the seed or son of the Woman before his birth, Gen. 3. the Angel promising to save Noah and his Children while they were unborn or new born by an Alk to be prepared for their suture preservation by the Fathers saith, Heb. 11.7. The angell which seeing saw the Israelites affliction, Moses a child in water, other male Children under charge of threats to be killed

killed, yet conducting them through the red Sea Chap.8. as a baptism; The angell that swore for preserva-Numb: 3. tion of little children in the figurative wilderness; The Angell that protected them in possession of Numb.14. the holy Land; The Angell of good newes for the Jud. 13. Child Sampson, for the Child Immanuel, the Child Jesus, the Jehovah that spake to his father Jehovah, Zach. 3. 2. Archangell, Prince of angels coelestiall, visionall, or pastorallis The seven angels pastorall of the seven exemplary Churches are the seven Spirits breathing by the seven horns of the Lamb, Rev. chap 3.1. and chap. 5. 6. throughout the Revelation, for small and great; and as they are the feven Eyes of the Lamb in love and pitty feeing small aswell as great Objects of ministerial carefullest duty; thus angelicall as sent from God; the name of Angellsignifying a messenger, by an excellency such as God sendeth on his message for the good of his Children, young aswell as oldicelestiall angels (appearing in countenance of the young) encourage Ministers Angell-like to befor the young, chap. 1.13. Haggai an angell for the young as well as the old to be bleffed at deliverance from the Babylonian captivity toward congratulation in thereformed holy City with praise and thanks unto the Lord for his mercy for ever towards Israel, from age to age, from old Parents to their Children; all the people shouted with a great shout when the Priests praised the Lord because the Foundation of the house of the Lord was laid, unto which joyfull holy work none were admitted that had not their name in the Register, a book conteining it may feem the names of the circum-N cifed

Chap. 8. Numb. 3. cifed, called holy every one, that is, written among the living or to life in Jerufalem as a branch of the Lord (Isaiah chap. 4.2,3.) having right to live therin as figuring Christs Kingdom of Grace and glory; Malachy (chap.2.7, 14,15.) the Priest an angell of the Lord for a godly feed or a feed of God by the Spirit of Covenant or Covenant of the Spirit, a Covenant of life and Spirit by the ministery, chap. 3. 1. an angell to prepare the way before the Lord of the Temple, angell of the covenant chap. 4. to prepare Parents for a bleffing to their children, and children for a bleffing to their parents, for escaping the curse of the whole earth by the holy seed, as at the beginning, so now at the end of the old Covenant in mercifull remembrance of his holy promife for all Nations and all Families to be bleffed from the curfe in that holy feed to come; So bleffedly joyning the beginning and end of the old Testament, with the beginning of the New Testament of Jesus Christ the Lord (who said, Iwill send my Angelt, so, to prepare my way before me, (expoundeth that angell to be John baptist) M.th. 11. 10. John himself after sanctification of his Childhood by the Spirit, so prepared for bleffing Parents and Children to Christ the blessed seed in Spirit of Elias an approved ministerial! helper of the young, & that Spirit of ministery being applied by Christ here (in the name of his angell) unto John the baptizer, are not al those among the angels of Little Children in prayers of Charity beholding the face of God for them to be joynt-heires with Christ? take heed of a curse in his displeasure if you casta scandall to hinder them from his arms,

and

and from the bosome of his beloved the Congre-chap. 8. gation of Christs flock to mark them for his as- Numb. 3. well Lambs as Sheep, to wash them in the Covenant of his blood, shed for young aswell as old; all needing his help under the curse of the Law to free them from the wrath of God against Sin, Hee laid his hand on them and bleffed them, and shall not the ministers of his word bless them in his name with the fign and meanes of bleffing which he mercifully sent to every Creature, to deliver them from the power of Satan, and admit them into the Kingdom of Christ who professeth himself the door aswell as keykeeper, saying, Topen and no man shutteth? The Kingdom of heaven is of such as these young ones, ye cannot enter into the Kingdom of God except yee be born of water and of the spirit: This is the way, presume not to stop this way against young ones; would you hinder their new birth easie to God the Father of Spirits as he will in secret conception? afterward ordaining speech for profession of Faith; Ordinances of new Covenant being not less effectuall than that of the old, where Infants received Circumcision of the heart, Deut. 30. and the Gentiles there being invited to walk in the steps of Abraham as the Father of the faithfull whether Iewes or Gentiles for instating their Children: if they afterwards fuffer under Gods severity for breach, neglect, or transgression of covenanted fidelity, they ought to blame themselves onely, not their Parents, their Parents may joy in conscience of their carefull performance in hope of Gods acceptance unto the promised reward, here and in heaven: If neverthe- N_2 less,

foy in the presence of Angels.

Chap. 8. Numb. 3.

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less Children through breach of such holy Covenant suffer in hell, the blame is upon self-will not upon the good wil of Parents engaging therin under hope of right to the blessing hereditable; as Esau had to the birth-right until he wilfully sold it, and as the Prodigall had right to his Portion, until he vainly spent it.

Extremity made him not ungratefully murmur against his Fathers improvidence in providing the sormer, but humbly confessing himself unworthy to be the Son of such a Father as had another portion for him upon repentance, owning him as a son at first, but with more joyfull manifestation of love at last, as the woman for finding her little

piece of filver that had been loft...

Betwixt these two joyes immediately Christ said there is a like joy in the presence of the Angells of God, and that heavenly joy of angels is compared to another like joy in the former words for finding the lost sheep, a fit embleme of man lost in sin, not onely gone aftray, but taken by the enemy Satan that goeth about seeking whom he can devour; yea the Spirit of Prophecy lamenteth for a finner. as it were swallowed by the devourer almost, Amos chap. 3.12. As the Shepheard taketh out of the. Mouth of the Lion two legs or the piece of an ear, so shall the children of Israel be taken out, &c. Hee saith not that they shall be delivered by their tongus, Infants aswell as other children might be capable of. that deliverance in that prophetique sense of the future to be affured in such manner as it had been in time passed, Amos herein seeming to refer unto that of David 1 Sam. 17. 34. There came a Lion and a

Bear :

Bear, and took a Lamb out of the Flock, and I went out Chap. 8. and delivered out of his mouth the Lamb or the Kid, Numb. 3. voung and feeble, yet strong as David; the son of

young and feeble, yet strong as David; the son of David, Zachary 12.8. the house of David, as theangell of the Lord for strength to the weak as his Lambs, his sons: it pleaseth Christ the son of God as Prince over angels to make them ministring spirits for fuch as shall be heirs of Salvation, though weak in their own appearance yet acceptable in mercy under such relation as his under seal of covenant in expectance of their serviceableness when they should be framed thereunto by their Parents or over-seers as deputy-Parents, Parents by reason of their mortality providing that their young might not be destitute of help either from faithfull Men, Angels, or God the great helper, by providence ordering angells to attend his good pleafure, and holy men for administring unto young children as his, under Covenant. In token whereof that Apocalyptical angel (of his similitudinary prefence) had a rainbow about his head, his right foot on the waters (having all the Revelation in trust at his disposal, and therefore the angell of the waters) in his right hand the seven exemplary Pastors and their spirits to mark in the foreheads with the mark or scal of subjection (under the Throne) small and great in the Kingdom of Christ, King of Saints, his by Covenant old or new, as intended in Christ. his command to discipulate or make disciples all Nations by baptism.

The sense of our Saviour Christin this Gospel Commission is the same with his sense in the Gospel-promise, the Gospel-promise intended to in-

N3, clude:

Gospell bleffing includes Infants.

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clude Infants while Infants; Therefore the sense of Christ in Gospel-commission intended to include Infants while Infants; the Gospel-commission being but ministerial for application of the Gospel-blessing, as it was promised for all Nations.

Now that the promise of Gospel-bleffing intended to include Infants (while Infants) is textually proved thus, Rom. 4. 20. Abraham staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief: But Abraham was strong in faith to the glory of God, who (as he promised) gavea Son to Abraham in his old age, Isaac, & bleffed him an Infant, according to promise, Gen. 17. 21. My covenant wil I establish with Isaac which Sarah shal bear unto thee the next year; The Covenant of faith the fathers faith, a Covenant of Grace for a bleffing to all Nations, Rom. 4. all Nations deriving this confolation by faith in the Covenant of a bleffing promised to and through an Infant: The name of Nations including Infantrie thus bleffed in this Gospel promise; includeth infancy to be blessed in the Gospel commission; how unlike Abraham, & un-Gospel like is the new sense obtruded on the Name of Nations now, for unbleffing an Infant (while an Infant) as if not within the Covenant of grace? Oh all ye Nations, having interest in the Gospel Covenant of grace published thus by the Angell in Gods name about the child Isaac (and afterwards by an Oath) be faithfull in beleeving and thankfull for fuch mercifull heavenly condescension to such Infant-interest in the Gospel-promise and Gospel-commission, applying the promised bleshing as to you heretofore, So now by you in prayers of faith & charity to the good of your little ones favoured thus by mini-

sters

fters angelicall and evangelicall as the childrens Chap. 9. ministers by Christs will be holding the face of his Father for their good; as heavenly ministers of God to give a reason of our ministeriall acts herein at this utmost provocation for farther manifestation of his holy good pleasure in his holy word of prophecy.

CHAP. IX.

Christ as King proclameth his good will to Baptized Infants by his Prophets. Numb. 1. Isa. 7. In the Child Immanuel.chap.8. In the Children of Isaias for signs, applied Heb. 2. Numb. 2. That sign baptism, Esaias 9. Zebulon and Nepthali with their Childrens Children first captived and first delivered by Ghrist his Kingdom opened after baptism (Math. 4.) Esaias chap. 11. where the generation of vipers and sucking Infants are conjoyned at the ensign baptism expounded by John Baptist, and Esaias chap. 40. Where John tound

Chap. 9. Numb. I. found bimself called to prepare the may of the Lord, the Lord therein accepteth infants, so like the flock of Jacob distinct by a mark inwater as Infants baptised. Numb. 3. In Joel Infants called by the Lord when he made the promise therefore Infants included in the performance at baptism, Acts 2. Numb. 4. Ezek 9. Children preserved, therefore marked in the fore-head, as Rev. 9. marked proved to be baptism.

Numb.I.

Number 1.

He name Immanuel, by interpretation God with us, given to a child, whether to the child Jesus immediately or mediately let the more learned judge.

Christian Rules of interpretation use to take things of that old

Testament as signs of things suture under the new, and not on the contrary things of the new so many hundred yeares after to be signes of acts in the former old Testament.

If the son of Esaias were immediately so named

Immanuel in event there might appear truth to Chap. 9. the glory of Christour Saviour.

Numb. 1.

This prophecy signall under that Mysticall name for deliverance was in the reign of King Ahaz, when the King of Damascus and the King of Samaria conspired in war, that war beginning in the reign of Ahaz, Esaias cap. 17. In which time also Damascus was taken, and Rezin the King thereof flain by the King of Asyria, 2 Kings chap. 16. 9. Ahaz reigned fixteen yeares 2 Kings 16. his son Hezekiah was twenty five years old when he began to reign, in the fixt year of his reign was that other ma-lignant City Samaria taken by the king of Affyria, 2 Kings chap. 18. 2. 10. King Ahaz his son Hezekiah being then at the age 31. could not be meant by the child, before whose yeares of discretion that work was to be done for deliverance of Jerusalem from the war of those two malignant Cities confederate, but accompting from the 4. of abaz unto the fixt of Hezekiah, the time of that event it was within 18. yeares from that prophecy under the name of that other child, and by Davids rule, 1 Chron. 23. 24. The Levites did the work of the service of the house of the Lord from the age of twenty yeares and upward, accordingly was the age of publique cognizance, Numb. chap. 1.13, So that reall accomplishment appeareth before such a child of Esaias atteined the full years of discretion legally to refuse the evill and choose the good.

In respect of which child as a prophetiquesign of such accomplishment for deliverance of Jeru-falem, the Jew allegeth the Mother to be called the prophetes, as conceiving by the prophet Esaiss

chap.

Christ king his name Immanuell to a child.

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chap 8. 3. and therefore denyeth the translation of a virgin-mother, chap. 7. 4. as if the hebrew word (alma) did not properly signifie a virgin, but one hid (alam, abscondere, to hide) there being a hidden Mystery prophetically assuring such deliverance as followed in manifest event.

Accommodation. God give ears & heart to understand, Oh Jen! one event is not an impediment, but a fign of another in Gods most mercifull accomplishment, elevating the faithfull from carnal to spiritual help, from earthly deliverance and peace to heavenly, wherin God willing to shew his abundant mercy bid King Ahaz ask a sign in the height above, or in the depth, the former son by that nominall fign extending to the return of the remnant in future prediction of posterity, doth this sign nominall fall short which aimeth at greater extension either in the height above or in the depth? (Oh altitudo!) The depth of the riches both of the wisdom and mercies of God! would he give less than he profered, who giveth usually more than is desired? is all the mercy meant (by that sign in the height above or in the depth) but an overthrow of those two malignant Damascus and Samaria, subdued to the King of. Affyria, more potent and more malignant in uttermost opposition at last against the land of Judah? Esaias chap. 8. 8. Behold the Lord bringeth upon the waters strong and mighty, the King of Assyria and all his glory, and he shall come up over all his channels, and go over all his banks, and he shall pass through Judah, he shall overflow, withe stretching out of his wings shall fill the breadth of thy land oh Immanuel; Be-hold Immanuel here intituled to the Kingdom of Judah.

Judah to deliver the Land from the Assyrian, as the Chap. 9. prophet Micab interpreteth, chap. 5. Bethlem out Numb. 1. of thee shall come forthunto me, to be ruler in Israel, whose goings forth from of old, from the dayes of eter-nity, therefore will be give them up untill the time that the that travelleth bath brought forth, then the remnant of his brethren shall return up to the Children of Israel and he shall stand and rule in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God, and they shall abide: for now he shall be great unto the ends of the earth; and this shall be the peace when the Assyrian shall come into our land (the land of Immanuel) Thus shall be deliver from the Assyrian --- and the remnants of Jacob shall be in the midst of many people, as a dew from the Lord, as the showrs upon the grass that tarrieth not for man, Micah 5. The dem of the birth of him that was to rule among his enemies in the beauty of holiness, of whom David prophecied, Pf. 110. David's son in whose time the Lord would again recover the remnant of his people from Assiria, Isaiah chap. 10.11. the recovery in Gulilee where Zabulon and Napthalie were first affili-Eted by the Asyrian, in event Christ there beginning to preach his Kingdom of peace, Matth. 44. 15.asIsaiah prophecied chap.9.16.

By plain coherence of these propheticalls it appeareth that there was intended in this course of Esaias prophecy deliverance not onely from the King of Samaria vanquished by the King of Assyria, but also deliverance from the Assyrian bondage long after when the Messias was to be born in the city of David, a child and yet a God [Immanuel, God with us] in the child intended principally by the

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prophet

Christ king his name Immanuell to a child.

Chap. 9. Numb. 1.

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prophet Isaiab chap. 8. 13, 14. Sanctify the Lord of hosts, the Lord himself, and let him be your fear, and he shall be for a Sanctuary, but a stone of stumbling, and for a rock of offence to both the houses of Israel, for a gin and for a fnare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and many among them shall stumble and fall, through ignorance stumbling at the lowness of that stone cut out of the mountain without hands, as born without help of man; yet becomming great to the confusion of the Asyrian (the Babylonian) Dan. chap. 2. A precious stone in Zion for salvation of the faithfull, but for scandalls to the unfaithfull Jewes, which have eyes, yet see not, and hearts, yet understand not, as Esaias chap. 6. & 8. foreshewed the Jewes ignorance about that hidden Mystery, chap. 7. Immanuel the son of the hidden, that is the virgin hidden from man, according to the most modest Hebrew phrase, calling the contrary, knowing man and known of man, but the that was unknown so being hidden in this sense; the word here translated virgin, Esaias 7. is the same which was ascribed to the virgin Rebecca, Gen. 24. 16. & to the virgin Miriam, Exod. 2. so Esaiah7. to the virgin (Mary) whose child was to be called manderfull, because boin not an ordinary way, but as the dew of the morning-womb without man: God open the Jewes eyes & othersalso, that they may not stumble and fall for ever, in as much as after the prediction of stumblings in offence hereat Esaias applieth Gods command, Sealthe Law among my, disciples - Behold I and the children which the Lord hath given me for signs, in a propheticall sense designing the child Immanuel, God withus, in his new. covenant of Grace, for salvation and sanctificati-Chap. 9. on of fuch young sealed disciples as his brethren Numb.1. by the testimony of the holy Chost applying these very words (which the prophet Esay spake of himand his children as signes) to Christ and Christian children, as signified Heb. 2. 11, 12, 13. Both he that Sanctifieth, and they who are Sanctified, are all of one, for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren, Saying I will declare unto my Brethren, in the midst of the Church will I fing praise unto thee; and again, behold I and the children which God hath given me. Behold that verified in Christ and his, which prophecy spake of Esaias and his young Infants under seal for the perfect praise of Gods mercifulness toward young aswell as old, after Christ came aswell as before, Matth. 21.17. Have ye never read [out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise] said Jesus in defence of the children crying in the tem-ple Hosanna to the son of David, his kindness applying that which was spoken by some in event to those that could not speak, Infants as by their exclamation or presence eloquent in his mercifull' acceptance to the praise of God.

Heb. 2. 14. For smuch then as Children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also likewise took part of the same in all things; mercifulness designed to children as Christs brethren under the seal of his covenant, their infancy perteining to the Church, amidst whereof Christ was to praise the mercies of God both his fathers and ours, as partakers in his Spirit of adoption who thus did partake in our flesh. Oh blessed Union with him as sanctified by Covenant in his name,

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Chap.9. Numb. 2.

Numb. 2.

small and great, as young and old were preserved in his name, Hosea II. 1. When Israel was a child I loved him, and called my son out of Ægypt: Thus the excellency of Jacob was humbled to depend as a child, and a child advanced to such excellency to be first engaged in that bleffed application of Immanuel, God with us, if so first with the prophets infant son in name, yet in nature first with Jesus when he was an infant, all in favour of infancie thus dignified and to be sealed with the sign of Christ his Kingdom: That seal, sign, or ensign of Christs Kingdom tobe baptism, and that appertaining to Infants the words of Esaias are clear Gospell, chap. 9. as Christ began to preach his victorious word of grace where his people were first captives, with their children, and their childrens children, 2 Kinge 17. 14. there Christ newly baptized held forth that ensign of his Kingdom in military speech, an ensignbearer to the glory of God to reign over the Gentiles, Gentiles that shall be saved being differenced from others as a fign of their submission to the Kingdom of Christ, Isaiah 11.

A sign of change in themselves professing to become as Christ requireth, Matth. 18.3. Verily except ye be converted and become as little children, yee shall not enter into the Kingdom of God, Esaias (chap. 11.6.) prescribed it excellently, The wolf shall dwell with the Lamb, and the Leopard shall lye down with the Kid, and the young Lion and fatling together, and a little child shall lead them (not by resemblance only but by presence for encouragement of the great to partake with the small (in Gods. gracious mercie to both ages) And the Cow and the Bear shall feed,

their

their joung ones shall ise down together, and the Sucking Chap.9. child shall play on the hole of the Asp, and the weaned Numb.2:

child shall lay his hand on the hole of the viper.

In event compare this of the prophetique Spirit with that of John Baptist, Matth. 3.0 Generation of vipers bring forth fruits meet for repentance? answerable to the amendment of life required of you at baptism, amending your poysonfull malice to become harmless as children, and so meet to partake in mercy with sucking children at baptism, the sign of Christ his Kingdom in grace, that ye may be saved from the wrath of God under which you were born; And unless ye repent it burneth unto the nethermost hell, where the worm shall not dye nor the fire be quenched, Esaias 6. 6. a spark of which divine wrath was erelong to burn old Jerusalem for their ungratefull rejection of Christ, the true Saviour.

When some Pharisees and Lawyers rejected (in the thouse, defeated) the counsell of God against themselves (being not baptised, Luke 7.30.) John said unto others that came to his baptism, who hath warned you to slee from the wrath to come? Matth. 3. by that putting them in mind of what Esaias had so foretold of the vipers change, as well as of other angry creatures, Beares, Lions, and Leopards, mildly to converse as children and with children, at the sign of submission unto the Kingdom of Christ in baptism, as it soundeth in our humble eares by reflexion from those questions, Why baptizest thou? who art thou? and the Eaptist his answer alleging for his warrant only the prophet Esaiar, as if he had said, Know yee not that the prophet Esais warneth you

That ensign Is. 1 1 expounded Mat 3.

Chap. 9. Numb. 2.

to flee from the wrath to come by the baptism of Repentance for the remission of your sins upon your conversion from your sins at baptism to become like children in harmless conversation, that you may be bleffed with children in subjection to Christ the King and Saviour of small and great together, as one people, so to make ready a people prepared for the Lord, Luke 1. 17. how ready? but by baptism in the name of the Lord; where may wee more likely find what fort of people the Lord accepteth to baptisim than where the Baptist himself perceived his originall warrant for baptizing, in Esaias 40.11. and there is an express for little ones, Comfort yee comfort my people saith the Lord; every valley shall be exalted, Behold the Lord God will come, he shall feed his flock as a shepherd, he shall gather the Lambs with his arm & carry them in his bosom.

Behold his acceptation of Lambs more express than of baptism it self whereunto John Baptist his faith warranted his practife, unless you can mystically draw such water out of the wels of salvation, Esaias chap. 12. (by that bucket or whatsoever else that vessell be)Esaias 40. 12, 15. Behold the Nations as a drop of a bucket, who bath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand: in the very next vers after that his expression, to the Lambs in his arms, with a promise of his Spirit also, chap. 44. 34. I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground, I will pour my Spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon my buds, my blessing upon thy ofspring, and they shall spring up as willowes by the water-courfes] the little plants of willowes using to grow aswell as the greater, and the comfort is, the stronger, in that the Lord here speaketh unto them as Chap. 9. his servant Jacob formed from the womb, the chil-Numb. 2,

dren in the fathers name accepted to partake in the fathers bleffing, as in Gods mercifull acceptance by covenant, one mysticall man from age to age as Jacob chosen of God in the womb to choose the service of God in after seasons of free covenanting for good, Esaias 43.1. Thus saith the Lord that created thee oh Jacob, and he that formed thee oh Israel, fear not, when thou passess through waters I will be with thee, for I am the Lord thy God, the holy one of

Israel thy Saviour.

How comfortably doth this explain the former words, Esaias 40. 11. He shall gather the Lambs with his arms, and carry them in his bosome, and shall gently lead those that are with young? in reference to the fafe conduct of Jacobs family toward the promised holy land in figure of heaven, Gen. 33. The children are tender, and the flock with young, I willlead on gently according as the cattle and children be able to indure. Thus in confidence of gods mercifull answer to the prayer of Iacob in his fatherly tenderness, chap. 32.0 God of my father Abraham, and God of my father Isaac, The Lord which saidst unto me feturn unto thy country, and to thy kindred, and I will deal well with thee deliver me I pray thee from the hand of Esau, for I fear him, lest he smite the mother with the children (brought out onely by consequence of reason in pitty without an express then for them) I am not worthy the least of all thy mercies, and of all thy truth, which thou haft shewed unto thy servant, for with my staff I passed over this fordan, and now I am become two bands. Notwithstanding two bands of adversaInfants baptised as particoloured Lambs,

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adversaries under Laban and under Esan came toward him, Jacob went on his way, & the angels of God met him, and when Jacob saw them, he said, this is Gods host, & he called the name of that place Mahanaim.

How safe are they whom God in mercy defendeth? an Angell of God favoured Jacob with a providentiall holy dream, who pilled strakes of white on rods and layed them in the gutters in watering troughs, when the flocks came to drink in the season of conceiving, that by strength of imagination, they might (and so they did) bring forth young ones with strakes or speckles of white in token of apperteining to Iacob for his wages in separation from the flocks of Laban the Syrian, those young ones so blessedly marked were gently conducted toward the land of promise, by Iacob then gaining the name of Israel as pre-vailing with God in prayer for his young children, a gracious pattern to be fufilled by the Messias that blessed seed of Iacob, to whose honour he was forepraised thus by the wisdom of holy prophecy. for leading gently those with young (or that gave fuck) and taking the lambs in his arms, in the very place where the holy Ghost authorised baptilin prophetiquely, chap. 40. of Esaias.

As (it might seem) on purpose to mind us how the Lord God of Israel (according to that pattern about markes for distinction to be procured in watering time) would have parents by their prayers of faith (as a spiritual conception) at baptism blessedly to procure that their young children might be marked mystically for entrance of right appertaining to the Israel of God; a com-

fortable

Jacobs flock distinguish'd by marks.

comfortable mark of dignity with duty for distin-chap. 9. ation from others without that mark of Gods bles-Numb. 2.

fing.

When at Baptism Christ said, Thus it becommeth us to fulfill all righteonsness; amongst all, would not Christ mind the Righteousness of his foresather Jacob, which Jacob so solemnly prepared for the time, Gen. 30.33. So shall my righteousness answer for me in time to come; Let it be accompted stoln with me, what is not marked as agreed: In which agreement betwixt Laban and him, two things are specially to be regarded, Gen. 31. 8,9.11, 13. if Laban said the speckled that come of the white Flock shall be the wages of Iacob, all the strong cattell bare young ones with speckles of white like haile stones (by the Hebrew word) signifying the blessing to be from God above whose providence in mercy would spare his holy Flock when he stormed others.

If Laban said the ring-straked shall be Iacobs wages, then all the strong cattell brought young ones with a strake of white about the Legg as a Ring for dutying them by Covenant to Iacob the servant in the service of the Lord God of Israel; with admiration found to bee Christ himself in the Angell of presence by comparing together 11, and 13 verses Gen.31. The Angell of God spake to Iacob saying [I the God of the house of Bethel where thou vowedst a vow to me] After the vision of the Ladder from earth to Heaven, at the top whereof the Lord stood, his negls ascending and descending applyed to Christ (Iohn 1.) with comfort to the lowest and smallest in Gods house as in a holy flock of Israel, over which he reignes as a shepheard; Fear not little Flock, all

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here as in resemblance of blessed old tacob & his return with a flock blessedly distinct from others by a sign from the water of sacred signification as is Baptism.

Numb. 3.

Yet, more evidently by Ioel 2. expounded by Peter Ads 2. The Lord God made a Covenant to fpare all flesh from perishing again by such an other flood over the whole earth: the whole earth rather shall be covered with the knowledge of Godsglory like a Sea at Baptism, over-ruling the Element which was before destructive to be salvificall as a meanes & pledge betokening the Covenant for our common Salvability, spiritually now in the Church who were bodily faved all as with our forefathers in Noahs Aike, even we now all alive were then preferved in Gods love to Man-kind; and in progress of his free mercy towards Sanctification of Old and Young, he prophetiquely promised to powre out his Spirit in abundance, sufficient to render all unexcusable that are without the Spirit powred so abundantly both on Old men and Young, on Sonnes and Daughters, Men-fervants and Maid-fervants; although with a difference in manner of effusion; on some visible with an outward signe, as on Christ in likeness of a Dove, on his Apostles and others in likeness of firy tongues, for the more assured. holy perswasion of other's to beleeve the promises of receiving the Spirit invisibly by ordinary dispenfation in the Church of Christ, by his Co-ordination of Water and Spirit for the New Birth at Baptism.

The visible and invisible Effusion of his Spirit from the same love of Christ in the Holy Ghost by divine

divine providence to stirr up our gratefull admira- Chip. 9. tion in love, circumspectly where we finde his word Numb. 3. of a promise recited in part to search for the whole, as the part, (Rom. 11.26.) The whole (Ifaiah 59.20, 21.) So for the outward visible effusion of Spirit, Acts 2.16. reciting the promise out of the second of Icel, that we may find there Infants included in the promise for invisible ordinary powring the Spirit on all flesh, the promise made to Parents and their children, from which Peter concludeth the duty to baptise them every one; Be baptised every one of you, for the remission of sinnes, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost: Infants have sin, and have need of the Holy Ghost, authour of life, for their fanctification in Spirit that they may have interest in that remission of sinnes in the name of Jesus Christ; Be ye baptised every one of you: It is not said for the present, Every one repent, there are seasons for the reasonable service of this duty, no duties of precepts affirmative are reasonable at every feafon: It was feafonable then for every one to be baptised as Peter bid, but the form of speech is altered for repenting then, he saith not there Repent ye every one, but repent ye; ye that have reafon to change your mind, for the fignification of Repentance is known to be transmentation, a change of the mind from evill to good by the grace of God: His Apostle calleth it an unspeakable gift as a Seed or Root enabling to grow and fructifieby Gods Coöperation in his proper seasons. And if nothing will satisfie the disputers rigid enquirie but actuall penitencie, let them refrain untill in our chap 13. Numb. 2. it may appear, how we scripturally

Chap.9. Numb. 3. ally prove Gods actuall acceptance of Infants as penitents; Howbeit the duty well performed by parents penitency may help the child, hurt by the fathers unbelief and iniquity, deferving punishment into eternity, from whence to eternal good is a ready passage by faith in the covenant of grace, though a great depth, wherein the minds of sacred Theologie swims with gratefull admiration of our deliverance so wonderfull.

The first Adam forsaking God (in whom is all good) ingulfed himself and all his generation by him into all evill, from which onely the second Adam (by comming to be one with the fon of God, Christ, God and Man in one person) hath redeemed us by his pretious blood, although the shedding thereof was most unrighteous by the Iews false accusations, aggravated with the guiltiness of all the righteous blood shed from Abel to Christ, all figuring his blood, which was to redeem all those Martyrs and all the Saints in the world as a propitiatory-facrifice for them all. Behold the Lamb of God that took away the fins of the world by his blood as a ransome enough for sin in generall as finfull even to redeem the shedders of it his adversaries, for whom he prayed, and whom he would raise from death by vertue of his resurrection to life, notwithstanding the watch set against it and their refuge in lies at laying that pretious stone, as Isaiah chap. 28. forewarned of that untruth preached Mat. 28. by the Roman fouldiers, against their own professed knowledge, blaspheming the disciples of Christ under his commission to make disciples by baptising and teaching all daies daies unto the end of the world, with his word Chap.9. of authority to eject the devill that engineer in Numb.3: all the Mines of fin through his old serpentine enmity then at height against the seed of the woman, our saviour in tenderness of his love so carefull against the enemy, that for suggestion in a respectfull word (master pirty thy self) he called Peter Satan that would have diswaded him from death; (his way) the like to be feared by any that would keep the least from benefit of his love unto death yet censured them as children of the devil that in heart desired his death (their way of enmity) with imprecation of his blood to be on them con them children, as combined against him in their covenant with death and hell, to hold him saft with warrant of

their feal upon his Tomb-stone, to keep him ever under meagre of Satanical Confederacy.

Yet all quickly disanulled by Christhis act Isa. 28. his strange acts in rising and raising up sinners in newness of life by his covenant of grace, manifold grace of manifold operations who can number them? to order them aright as God worketh them, beginning to manifest sometimes one, sometimes another, but enabling for all, & binding to all by faith in his holy seasons, the word preached assured them by the mouth of his witnesses that God had made the same Jesus whom they had crucified, both Lord and Christ, Messias, the anointed with the oyl of gladness above his fellowes, for his oyl of grace to descend from his head-ship on them in fellowship with him by covenant of grace, which they difcovered themselves there to believe, by forrow pricked at the heart for it, and by defire of that

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Icel for Infants baptism

Chap. 9. Numb. 3.

anointing oyl his grace to do what he their Messias requireth, by submission to what his ministers taught, what shall we do? repent, change your mind, as from infidelity to faith, and from enmity to the love of Christ as Lord of life to you, so to your children as well as to you, and to all (children being the next precedent substantive) to all whom the Lord our God shall call, children as well as parents, all as a off as well as near, afar in time, as off in place, whom the Lord shall call in their seasons as he calleth you to repent by change of mind from whatsoever hath made you guilty; guilty in your selves guilty towards your children, that they may be clensed from the blood-guiltiness and sinfulness of all bloody fore-fathers in shedding all the righteous blood of Martyrs from Abel unto Christ, and all sinfulness in unjustly shedding the blood of Christ, in spitefully blaspheming Christ and his good Spirit, in false accusing him to death, and enmity toward him dead, in cursed imprecation of his blood on you and your children, as it were prefumptuously boasting to answer for it, from all fuch wickedness you are not sufficiently changed untill you have done all that may be to recover your children from under that curse to the contrary bleffing, that the blood of Christ may anfwer for you and your children by your earnest effectuall prayer of faith and charity to difingage them from that your imprecatory curse and covenant with death and hell under the power of Satan, which is not done until you have ingaged them under Christ the Lord of heaven and earth the true most almighty Lord of life and death in his cove-

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nant of grace to raise them from the death of sin Chap. 9. unto newness of life, as Debters to the Spirit, to Numb. 3. live in the Spirit, and walk in the Spirit, after the teachings of the Spirit; when they shall be able to learn obedience to Christ in his Kingdom of grace, the enfign whereof is baptism in his name, that others may regard them as his, fign them as his, teach them, and they may be bleffed as his figned ones, and in due time accordingly bless themselves in prayers and performances of whatfoever they were sanctified unto by their Mother-Church, as his bride, in his holy name at baptism of repentance, his bleffed ordinance for fuch change in every one, Repent and be baptized, every one, Joel chap. 2. God expresly calleth for sucking. Children to be brought into the solemn assembly, when he made the promise feel 2. applied by baptism, Alls 2. This is that which was spoken by the prophet foel v. 38. Be yee baptized every one of you (v. 39.) the promise is to you and to your children, for that promise sake as a cause, effectually seek to pro-cure the blessing promised, the cause and effect are morall ingagements to be conjoyned.

To whom the cause apperteineth to them apperteineth this effect; for because the promise apperteineth unto you and unto your children mind your duty commended herein, that the effect apperteining unto you and to your children, may by vertue of that promise be gained unto and to your children, even such children as the Lord meant at his proclamation of the promise by that prophecy. Such children are meant in application of that

Pomise by baptism.

But

Joel for Infants baptism

Chap. 9. Numb. 3.

But children sucking at the breasts were expressly meant by the Lord at that his proclamation of the promise. Therefore sucking children are meant by the Lord at his application of the promise in baptism; that application is by way of command in the Imperative mood, preceptive, as taught in the name of the Commander in chief by vertue of his commission, therefore go baptizing all nations and teaching them to observe what soever things I have commanded you.

So taken in practife, the Angell said to Cornelius, fend to Peter, He shall tell thee what thou oughtest to do, Acts chap. 10. v. 6.--v. 21. Peter said, what is the cause wherefore ye are come? v. 33. Cornelius said, now therefore are wee all here present before God to hear all things that are commanded thee of God, v. 48. And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord.

This openeth the sense of that imperative [be ye baptised] Acts 2. by way of command: both the promise and command apperteining to Christ as principall efficient in the name of the Father Son and holy Ghost, the minister and his administration of baptism serve as instrumentall causes in relation to Christ his power and his Spirit for sanctification & remission of sins here promised towards salvation of the baptised, and magnification of Gods glory, v. 21. v. 11. the finall cause toward all these causes here vertually referreth this causall particle for, enim, 725, Acts 2.39. If any will attempt to barry you from your right of inheritance unto the king dom of Christ as if this conjunction which the grammar affirmeth to be causal were not causal for yur right to the blessing promised by doing the juty

which is commanded, attend & pray young scho-chap. 9. lars that you may rather hold than lose your right Numb. 3.

unto that bleffing in heaven by holding rather than breaking your grammar rules, so dearly learned in plenty of stripes, hunger, and cold; and you likewise Students in the University by gratitude holding fast your excellent art of right reasoning in Logiques, and Theologiques principally which findeth in the sacred text a prohibition, what soever thing I command shou shalt not add thereto nor diminish from it, Deut. 12. 32. and a commination most terrible, Rev. 22. 19. with a most solemn affeveration, Matth. 5. God who suffereth not one Iot or tittle of his Law to pass unfulfilled, will not have to be sleighted what he hath commanded in duty for effectuall attainment of what is promised, as required in this causall particle for application of the promise as made to fathers and their fucking children, although curiofity presume to take the sense of causality from the causall here (for, 2017,) by pretending suchuse of the particle in fome seeming mistaken instances.

1. Instance 2 in for, A&s 4.34. mistaken, as if it were not causall in yeelding so good reason of that which went before, for in that they lacked nothing in such times of persecution it was great grace of God in fellow-members toward them, and great cause of thanks to God for so great charity by his

grace in fuch extremity.

2.Instance A&. 8.31. as if it were not causall, pip, for, being almost at the beginning of an answer, mistaren that answer being by way of interrogatio pregnant of a negative the cause whereof is expressed to

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chap. 9: be for that he had no guide, & therfore defired Philip Numb. 3. a Minister to teach what he understood not, & that a primary pattern of Gentiles becoming Christians if that cause had bin observed, here would not have monstered so many corruptions against the ordinances of Christ to grieve the good Spirit of reformatio.

3. Instance, 2 Cor. 13. 4. mistaken (as meer similitude without cause) for Christ being crucified in his willing infirmity for us, and yet living in power, is excellent cause of comfort in our infilmity to

shew Christ in us.

4.Instance Philip. 3. 20. mistaken, for the Apostles heavenly conversation is alleged as cause of that exhortation to walk after that example, the neglect whereof is cause of destruction, in the antecedent words.

5. Instance, Rev. 22. 18, 19. in that most terrible commination to take his name out of the book of life, if any man shall take away from the word of that book, is it fafe even there to take away this causall use of this causall word (22, for) where is so dreadfull cause to fear the neglect of that use in those needfull things offered there to him that heareth, about the bride of Christ, or his marriage supper, and the everlasting covenant in the fon of Divid with reference to prophetique invitation, Isaiah 55. to partake of the sure mercies of David, for himself and his children, at the free water of life, for pardon of fins to be taken when thus offered at the waters? is it not a dangerfull mistake to think that terrible commination not well applied by this (var for) as a causall shewing so great cause why the hearer should not neglect

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fo great ordinances of Christ for his bride the Chap. 9. church in his and her marriage supper at the como-Numb. 4. munion, and for his and her children at the waters of baptism? curiosity by such extreme provocation hath awaked charity thus as at perill of extreming

into eternity the seeming mistakes of such instances to help aggravated.

The fixt Instance in this of the Ads chap.2.39. about (yep, for) as if this causall conjunction were not causall, wheras the promise is applied as a cause of right to procure the blessing promised, by the duty commanded, that parents and children might partake with Gods people in that blessed effect, according to promise, to the glory of Gods truth and faithfulness in his promised child Jesus Christ at his great work of accomplishment. Als 2.

Ye to whom the promise was made be ye bapti-

zed.

The promise was made to you Fathers and to your children; ye fathers and your children there-

fore are to be baptised.

Obe ye baptised every one, O comfortable commandment in sweet accord of prophecy with event, opened thus further by that vision of Christ his glory which having filled the temple departed to Nun Mount Olivet on the East side, Ezek, chap. 11. 23. whence Christ ascended after that he there had bin betrayed, but before his departure Ezek. 9. the glory of the God of Israel commanded a mark to be marked in the fore-head of the men that sigh and cry for the abominations of Jerusalem, & all the marked to be spared, but all to be destroyed old young, both maids and little children, whosoever were

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Chap.9. Numb.4 not marked; if crying little children were spared in Niniveh, much rather in Jerusalem a remnant shall be brought forth sons and daughters; chap. 22. God called her children his children, chap. 16.21. & faith, I will preserve thy fatherless children alives Jer. 49. 11. those that were preserved were marked in the forehead, little children were preserved, therefore little children were marked in the forehead, in that misticall marke was a defignation of them to Christs glory by prophetically-figurative vision of baptism the Ensignof Christ his Kingliness upon the throne. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the Lord (to wit of Christ as Man king over his Church) which glorious appearance of his kingly mystery stood upon the sole of Cherubims feet like the sole of a calves foot, Ezek.1.7. it may well be minded whether to signify Christ his Kingdom of grace to be placed over Infants as calves in tender ness at baptism.

That the prophetique sense is about some qualities of man-kind mystically resembled in the vision of calves, it is not usually denied, as Ezek. 1.5. The four living creatures had the likeness of a man, Rev. chap. 5. the redeemed out of every tribe and every Nation were signified by them which had the faces of a Lion, an Eagle, a Calf, Rev. 4. or that the Calves simplicity most fitly resembleth, childrens infancy; but to prove that children as baptized are intended here are three notable occurrences.

As first in reference to the divine commandment for the children of Israels departure out of Egypt to offer sacrifice unto God, whence proceded 3 consequences collected by reason in particulars of great consideration in this very case.

I. When

1.W hen the Lord said nnto Moses in Midian, Go, re- Chap. 9. turn into Egypt, Exod chap 4 19,20. by consequence Numb. 4. hereof Moses took his wife and his sons and re-

turned to the land of Ægypt.

2. When God said to Moses, goe gather the Elders of Israel together, and thou and they shall say to the King of Ægypt; Now let us goe (wee beseech thee) three dayes journey in the wilderness, Exod. 3. 16. 18. upon whose earnestness at last the King said, Goe ye now that are men, and serve the Lord, for that you did desire, Exod. 10. 11. A rigorous interpretation to stay the litle ones in Ægyptian slavery whom Moses by a consequence of Reason resolved to have included in the deliverance, chap. 10. 9. We will goe with our young, and with our old, with our sonness, and with our Daughters, for we have a Feast unto the Lord: mark, the young named in a caution First, as specially welcome unto the Lord of the Feast, as is she feasted in delight of their safety sirst.

3. When Pharaoh said, Serve the Lord, let your little ones also goe with you, onely let your Flocks and your Herds bee stayed, chap. 10. 24. He had before said, chap. 8. 28. I will let you goe that ye may sacrifice to the Lord your God in the wilderness, (that was the word of their own Petition, chap. 3. 18.) Moses by consequence of reason required all, chap. 10. 26. Our cattell also shall goe with us, there shall not an hoof be left behind, for therof we must take to serve the Lord our God, and we know not with what we e must serve the Lord untill we come thither, and Pharaoh said, goe serve the Lord as ye have said, also take your flocks and your herds as ye have said, and be gon, and bless me al-

(o, chap. 1:2: 32:

The

Ezekiel for Infants baptism.

Chap. 0.

Chap. 9. Numb.4.

The zeal of Ifrael would not spare one little Child to stay behind them, nor one hoof of a Calf to be detained from serviceableness at the pleasure of God, the glory of God brought them out of E-gypt the place of Bondage through the Red Sea in sigure of Baptism, I Cor. 10.2 into the land of promise, a sigure of Christs promised Kingdom in heaven, whence the multitude of strong men was shut out, who murmured in distrust of their childrens

fafety.

Thus Children's Baptismall safety may seem concerned in that reference of Exekiel about the soles of a Calves foot to the least hoof safe-guarded out from Egypt through the Red Sea as was the least child concomitant in that wonderfull way of safety through water, by consequence of reason arguing to Gods glory from so great care for calves to greater care of children: Children also because of their great likeness to calves in harmless tenderness well according thus with that mysticall appearance of calves in this prophetique reference to what had passed in Israels story sigurative of suture mercy.

Joyn a second notable occurrence in Ezekiels vision of a Rainbow there about the throne, chap. 1.

28. A token of mercy to all flesh, young aswell as
old, Gen. 9. to be saved from a like perishing by water; and as out of the waters at the making of the
world, the living creatures abundantly came forth
by vertue of the Spirit upon the waters as a hen
hovereth over her young, so the word signisheth,
herein is a third notable notable occurrence for understanding the words of Christ (about gathering
the children of Israelites like chicken under the
wing)

kiel, chap. 36.

mid

wing) with the Prophetique word of Ezekiel about Chap. 9the Cherubins wings under the Throne of Christs Namb. 4glosy, by covenant of a new spirit, a new heart with sprinkling water to make clean from sin, Eze-

The norse of their wings like the noyse of great maters, as the voyce of the Almighty, Ezek. 1.24. the Revelation expounding waters to fignifie people and tongues, declaring the voyce of the Almighty, the voyce of his word in his name, a Baptizing in the name of the Father, the Son, and Holy Ghoft, as by the Commandement of the Almighty Lord of Hosts sanctifying People and Nations in his Name by the watery token of his holy Covenant in Baptism. Jesus baptizing and John also where was much water, John 3. In prospect of such mysteries, Cherubims being formed upon the bases of the bra-sen zed Sea, the great vessell of water figuring Baptism wherein the Ministers of the Temple washed before they were to administer the ceremonies for clenfing of others, and that great vessell of brass standing upon 12. Oxen of brass, three looking towards the North, and three towards the West, three towards the South, and three towards the East, significant of the twelve Apostles labours to carrie the Doctrine of Baptism towards the four quarters of the Earth, in which respect the vessell of water was called Sea in comparison of the Sea that running through the world about into little springs as well as great Rivers with recourse towards the Sea again. Habbac. 2.14. The earthshall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the Sea. Revel. 4. Before the Throne was a Sea, and aNumb .1.

midst the Throne the soure living, (to wit Cherubins) one face as a man, another like a calf, young and old, the redeemed, Revel. 5. the first fruits (first born) to God and the Lamb, Revel. 14.4,6,7. An Angell there exhorting to fear God, and give glory to him, and to worship him who made the Sea and the Fountaines of waters, the small as well as the great. Gods fatherly mercifalness hearing groanes as well as prayers, accepting Children in their different abilities & different duties by the same Spirit in the same Church, so resembled by the vision of living Cherubins under the Throne, whether as Eagles in high slying meditations, or else offering up the Calves of lips in simplest affectioned-Infant-vociferations.

In Hosea 14. the command to take words with them may appertain to sureties undertaking for Infants, to teach them the words of Covenant at years of discretion, with obedience unto such fatherly providence gratefull to God and Man.

CHAP. X.

Num. 1. Christ King accepteth the parents covenant, promise Vow for Infants.

Numb. 2. The blessing of Christ sent to all Nations deserveth advisement of Nationallwisdome and holinessness, and all.

all subordinate belps of parents, sureties, Chap. 10. Ministers. Numb. 3. All such belps of duties give grace in the word of grace and prayer. Num. 4. Baptismal vowes blessed bounds to the Childrens good.

. Number 1.

Oth duties of fatherly providence to care for young children, and of childrens obedience unto their carefull parents undertaking to covenant for right unto both, holdeth in truth as ordained of God in the new covenant also, for such

intent proposed Jer. 32. after his own prophetique pattern about the figurative inheritance, read, and consider; when the Babylonian conquerors had Anathoth the place of Jeremiah his natitivity, from which the malignant inhabitants had threatned to cut him off tree and fruit, chap. 11. there the Lord God bid Jeremiah to purchase land offered unto him by his cosen, in form of lawfull right by evidences of purchase and sufficient witnesses of such his purchased right descendable to the heirs whether old or young, a prophetique application to encourage the peoples hope of returning from Babylonian captivity with their children unto the &. land of promise a figure of Christs Kingdom, chap. 29. Feremiah Said, take you wives and beget soms and daughters, and take wives for your sons, and give your

Chap.10. Numb. 1.

daughters to husbands, that they may bear sons and daughters, for thus saith the Lordsthat after seaventy yeares be accomplished at Babylon, I will perform mygood words towards you in causing you to return to this place, Jeremiah 30. 10. Therefore fear thou not my servant Jacob, Saith the Lord, for loe I will save thee from afar off, and thy feed from the land of their captivity, and Jacob shall return, chap. 32. 37, 38, 39, 40. I will bring them again unto this place, and they shall be my people & I will be their God, and I will give them one beart that they may fear me for the good of them and their children after them, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them, the new covenant of grace applied as meant here by the Lord in answer to faithfull Jeremiah admiring at the Lords command for conveyance, and the evidences thereof, one sealed, another open to be put in an earthen vessell, for thus faith the God of Ifrael; houses and fields shall be possessed again in this Land, as it came to pass after expiration of the limitted time of seaventy years; Daniel received the message from Gabriel for seaventy times seven weeks of yeares, wherein Christ, the prince of the 'covenant, came, and (broken at death as an earthen vessell') discovered the covenant, sealed it with his holy Spirit, and committed it sealed to the witnesses, his Apostles witnesses of his Gospell of grace to all nations, the treasure in earthen vessels, 2. Cor. 4. now made manifest by the Scripture of the prophets according to the commandment of God to all Nations for the obedience of faith, Rom. 16. faith in the covenant conveyed to children by their faithfull parents-right and help in life, and after their parents (as vessels of earth) asfured

fured by witnesses of the covenant sealed by their Chap. 10. parents, and that other open evidence to be sealed Numb. 1. on the childs part by his own consent at full age, all as by covenant to the glory of God through Jesus Christ in his Kingdom, figured by that land of promise hereditable by the young through their sacts, through faith and love purchased by Christs blood as a ransom weighed for old as well as young Behold in the Rechabites also, Jer. 35. an everlasting example encouraging obedience to parents undertaking for their children from one generation to another, as Isaiah said also, Behold the childre which God hath given me, chap. 8.18. Heb. 2. 13. The vow of Hannah the mother, and the vow of Elcanah the father, for their son, were accepted of God 1. Sam. chap. 1.11.21. with a great blessing; Levi was blessed in theloines of his great grandfather Abraham, and Abrahams servant (enfeossed to choose a wife for his masters son) was blessed with choice of Rebecca mother in the bleffed linage of Christ; Christ did choose to be born of Judah surety for Benjamin, Christ our surety biddeth us love as he did, and learn of him to take his yoak, and bear one anothers burthen, to covenant in others names at baptism; afterwards through manifold deceipts and slips of our hearts the covenant often on our parts is to be renewed, but not by renewing baptism, for that were to make vain the supper of the Lord, which is rather commanded for establishing us by way of renewing the covenant often, 1. cor. 11. This cup is the new covenant in my blood (the sealing covenanted on our part) this do as often as zedrink it in remembrance of me, for as of as ye eat of R 3

Chap. 10. Numb. 2

this bread, and drink of this cup, ye shew the Lords death untill be come---But let a man examine himself, & so let himeat of that bread, and drink of that cup. Self examination is pre-required in each worthy receiver of the holy Communion; not so for baptism, Godaccepting the nationall acknowledgment of confent for themselves and their Infants as parts of the nations unto which this Embassage of mercy came.

Numb. 2.

The bleffing fent by Christ to all nations may deserve the best advisement of highest in trust of nationall supreme authority, to have their young ones prepared with hope of grace, in subordination of all duties toward effectuall helps of grace in them; grace is a gift of God above nature, to bind in duty to God, and to lift up man above his naturall ability toward the dutifull fervice acceptable unto God in his freedom of mercy, sure by covenant through the meritorious blood-shed of Christ our Saviour admitting us all to be one body mysticall under his headship which influenceth out of his fountain of Spirit divers gifts into divers members, for their divers operations, towards the good one of another, in their severall measures and seafons, according to the rules of his manifold wifdom in his word, sufficient for the duties to which he calleth them, and by which he worketh in them and with them for union, communion, and communication of his gracious gifts among them as to read to assist trusted by way of holy dispensation in this pastoine dutifue: that he rall ordinances and paternall offices at his comsaid: Command y mand: 1 Pet. 4. 10. As eggan man had gift, minister the same onto another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God, ministring, Denoper, includeth

deth Deacons, and speaking the oracles of God as Chap. 10. stewards, includeth such ministers as Paul and those Numb. 3.4. other called the stewards of the mysteries of God, 1 cor.4.1. That they dispensed grace is undeniable by any that heareth Paul say, My little Children of whom Numbo 3. Galath.4.19. I have begotten you, to Titus mine own fon after the common faith, but excludeth not others from dispensing grace in their paternall duties also. Christ accounteth such as do the will of God to be his mothers, begetting him by grace in others, not by their own ability but by the grace of God which is communicative as light of light; life of life, by the lively feed of the word, Isaiah chap. 59.20, 21. The redeemer shall come to Zion: as for me, this my covewith them saith the Lord, my spirit that is upon thee, and my words that I put into thy mouth shall not depart, nor out of the mouth of thy feed, nor out of the mouth of thy seeds seed, saith the Lord, from henceforth and for ever; thus from age to age the word of feed, and the Spirit therewith, by the new Covenant are communicated from parents to their children as a gift, Eph. 4.29. Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is able to give grace to the hearers, it is the word of Christ that giveth grace: But so sarely by the covenant, that they by the word and by prayer may freely procure it, &. promise with confidence in the words of grace, and vow the work of grace, and bind their children in that baptismall vow for their Good; a blessed bond which bindeth to mercy, safety, felicity, to the glory Numb, 4, ... of Gods truth, wonderfull in mercies to the little

ones in the great, and to the great in the little ones,

for the Childrens good.

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Chap. 10. Numb. 4.

according to his oath, and to othes oath in his holy name.

As when Joseph bound his brethren of Israel for their children afterward, to perform as they did in conscience of that oath for bringing the bones of Joseph from Ægypt into the land of promise, believed by him and to be believed by them for their own departure from bondage bodily sigurative of spirituall, for our learning, as our types or patterns, whereas Joseph bound the Israelites by oath for what their children were afterwards to

perform.

We parents and fureties by vowes bind our selves at baptism for our childrens departure from the bondage of sin to the Kingdom of Christ, to the glory of grace, in prayer of parents and for parents, as for Ruth; the Lord make her famous in Bethelem and he made her famous in Bethelem of David her great Grand-child, and Jesus her most grand, of whose fulness wee all receive grace for grace xapir arri zúellos grace against grace, as in a looking glass, to the glory of grace, in good example, as Tim. 1.3.5. I thank God whom I serve from fore-fathers in a pure conscience, and joy for the faith which is in thee, which dwelt first in thy Graad-mother Loys, and thy Mother Eunice, grace seconding grace, from age to age, by good counsell and instruction of the Spirit, as breathing makes alive the fire again (for so the Apostles word doth signify) as dying coales under ashes of burning consumptions. All ye remaining yet in temptations call to mind how the lively fire of grace warmed in your hearts by the bleffings of religious grand-fathers, good grand-dames, dear Prrents

I Cor. 13.6.

parents, and other baptismall sureties, for you; and Chap. 10. be thankfull and faithfull in minding others of Numb. 4 the like, and prayerfull against over-daring, with new extinguishers of those old Graces and holy comforts of your Infant-baptism, and praise Gods fatherly providence (admirable heavenly providence) having formerly fitted those many links in the pattern of mercy; when old Israel sent his children into Egypt to provide bread for the life of similarly and great in his samily, Simeon was bound for securing the return of his brethren with young Benjamin. In sept afforded them corn for their jour-

ney, with their money in their Sacks mouth.

andah (in confidence of bleffing upon young and old) offered to undertake for fafety, faying unto Israel his father, send the lad with me, and me will goes that we may live and not die, both we and thou, and our little ones: I will be surely for hims of my hands shalt thou require him; If I bring him not unto thee, then let me bear the blame for every without such a seaso? nable furety there had not been fafety to them or their little ones: All had untimely dyed with famine, all might live by meanes of fuch a furety. Father Ifrael at such extremity submitted his beloved Benjamin with furety but in prayer, take your Brother, and God Almighty give you mercy before the man. God hath heard the prayer beforehand in providing fuch a Man for mercy, though in an other Country: Mercy to Benjamin for his liberall maintenance and education there, mercy to them all, though shadowed a little from them to make it sweeter unto them upon triall and exercise of the furcties fidelity. Ioseph asked them of peace (hebrew)

Judah surety for little Benjamin.

130 chip.10. Numb. 4.

brew) is there peace unto your Father? and he lift up his eyes and sum his brother? Benjamin his mothers son? yet asked is this your younger brother? God be gracious unto thee my son: And this prayer also before it was spoken was heard by God in gracing Josephs heart to become a father in providing graciously for him as a son: Ioseph a new and true surety for Benjamins assured of welfare in a new Country.

What now could his other furety do but acknowledge his charge, faithfully plead for it, and conftantly proceed through the difficulties of it? Judah said, I pray thee let me abide a Bondman to my Lord instead of the Lad, and let the Lad go up with his Brethren, for I became a surety for the Lad unto my father who will dye if he see not the Lad with his brethren,

his life being bound up in the Lads life.

Out broke the tears with the words of Josephs brotherly kind heart, up went the waggons for father Jacob and the little ones, so came those holy blessed sheafs bound into the barns of blessed plenty, with whom came also the Lord of the harvest, as he promised to Jacob, Gen. 46. 4. fear not, I will be

with thee; God the God of thy father.

Christ the son of God who chose to be born of Judah the surety for his young brother, and became our surety to God the father even unto death for us, excelling all other in heavenly rich mercies of brotherly kindness, and acceptance of dear suretiships in true gratious holy bonds of baptismall vowes and promises, acceptable to God and to his beloved Church, and profitable to the baptised rather in their Infancie, more acceptable unto the son of God Christ Jesus incomparably more earnest

in love than was Josephs affectionate desire of good Chap. 10. speed for his brother Benjamins enjoyment; far Numb. 4. greater in the providence of our heavenly father by sanctification in the holy Ghost, than the heart of man can think or tongue express; in 400f Esaias where baptism was intended, read how the Spirit censureth men as Grashoppers, and nations as the small dust, to set forth the greatness of Gods glory toward the young children of Ifrael, even fuch as have no might: His unsearchable understanding layeth their first foundation, the everlasting God their Creatour and Recreator foweth all their feeds, and best accepteth the first fruits without delay offered by their Mother-Church in prayers, with thanks of Parents love, care and vowes: The practice of more vertues, as the fruits of more graces, having promises of more reward in his mercies to his greater glory, more acceptable to his loving Church and her faithfull ministers, with parents more congratulatory joyfull, seeing the fruits of their bodies under covenant of bleffing in Gods name before their decease, rather than tempt Godby presumption upon future uncertainties, with neglect of prefent opportunities, for interest in the ordinances of his free grace so long denied as wilfully delayed in unassurance for the future : wise parents therefore hast. Isaiah 35. biddeth fay to the Hasty or strong fear not, in performance of the duty to strengthen the weak hands and confirm the weak knees: among others, joy to the defert there blossoming as a Rose, it shall biossom abundantly by waters breaking out in the defert, a little water in a vessel by Gods covenant having aspring of his Spirit, even in the driest

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Numb.4.

driest Countires (elswhere praised by him as buckets of salvation) for salvation of fools in that way of holiness, fooles cannot erre, the Covenant of God saveth them according to the prayers and vowes formerly made for them: And if others attain the gift of discretion they may find these forward vows and prayers of faith in the covenant more profitable unto them in bringing them so soon from under the curse of sin into the Kingdom' of Christ, the curse of parents in sin damaging the children, by the fin of one death upon all, Rom. 5. by the justice of God visiting the sins of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generation; the iniquity of the Amorites not then full, Gen. 15. afterwards filled to the destruction of their children; and Israelites also were permitted to fill up the measure of their fathers sins, treasuring up wrath as for themselves & their children, yet to themselves onely wrath, if they do duty for their children.

2. This pre-ingagement for their good preventeth temptation, not onely faveth from fathers fins, but prevents temptation at their first dawning of knowledge, that the devil usurp not the first fruits by surreption in the deceivableness of the evill spirit that worketh in the children of disebedience, by nature children of wrath.

3. That they harden not therein by tast of things

forbidden.

4. That delay make not dutymore difficult through unruly strifes that would arise about limitations of the time for exigence of binding afterwards.

5. Lest the licentious unbound slip from good utterly the next way to hell by self-will, the Re-

probate way of Belial, without yoak, from all which Chap. 10. dangerous evils, Infants are bound in baptizing to Numb. 4. their good by promise for this life and that which is for ever: such facred hope and fear are blessed bonds of conscience to keep them safe in duty by teachings of parents sureties, and friends, approved helps at first in proceeding and finishing by the

preachers of the word.

6. To the glory of Gods superabundant grace in Christs conquest over to devils enmity, that as Infants are guilty but through anothers fault, they might have remedy coming on others feet, & with others mouth professing the Christian faith, which alloweth one to bear anothers burthen, and commandeth the work of the ministery for the per-fecting and edifying of the body of Christ by that which every joynt supplyeth in season, effectual-ly working, as bound all to be compassionate parts of the same body, the same holy mysticall incorporation under one Christ, who taketh upon him to pay for our sin, and putteth on us the robe of his own Righteousness. I am Esau thy sirst-born said Iacob, Isaak said, art thou my very son Esau? and he said I am; Understanding by contract for the birth-right of the first born, he gained the blessing in the name of the first-born. We pray and attain in the name of Jesus (who is the Amen, Rev. 3. O'Aper) yea and Christ vouchfafeth himself for performance of what was undertaken by that great God-father David, They part my garments and cast lots upon my vesture, Pf. 22. Mat. 27. I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midstof the Church or congregation will I praise thee. Ps. 22. Heb. 2. 12. Then said I loe I come to do thywill O Lord

Infants bound for their good

134 Chap.10. Numb. 4

Lord. Pf. 40. Heb. 10. While thus David answered before for Christ, Christ answereth for us, we pray as one with Christ, and good faithfull Christians pray one for another: it is Pietie, Providence, Charity, not Mockery but earnestness, with bowels of mercy conforming in spirit unto David after Gods own heart. 2. Samuel chap. 7. 25, 27. Establish forever, and do as thou hast said, therefore bath thy servant found in his heart to pray this prayer unto thee; With thy bleffing let the house of thy servant be blessed, chap. 23. 5. God bath made with me an everlasting covenant, ordered in all things and sure, for this is all my Salvation and all my desire. Esaiah chap. 55. Ho every one that desireth the mercies of David, sure by everlasting covenant, take therofas ye desire by prayer of faith in that everlasting covenant for a blessing to you and to your children in Christ the son of David. Pf.132.12. If thy Children will keep my Covenant, their children also shall sit upon thy throne for evermore. Mark this ye fathers covenanting for your children in hope that they also shall reign with Christ accroding to your prayer of Faith including them. under his covenant of salvation. Pf. 112. 2. The generation of the fathers shall be blessed. Prov. 13.22. A good man leaveth inheritance to his childrens children, whether in Davids sense as becommeth the wisdom of such a son; The covenanting Father by prayer of Faith is heard for his children for the like bleffing to be conveyed by the covenanting of his children for their children, in Hebrew, the Father leaveth heirs childrens children.

If it were prooveable that Solomon (having received his right unto the mysticall inheritance by

Gods

: opright

Gods covenant with David his Father) did not here Chap. 10gratefully remember that, but onely temporall in-Numb.4.
heritance on earth; yet this ferveth for argument by
way of comparison grounded in the word of God;
as the mystical inheritance exceedeth the temporal,
so the mystical father-hood in Gods mercies and in
mens duties exceed the sleshly father-hood out of
love to make childrens children heirs.

The like force of just comparison inferreth, that as the vertue of ordinary Grand-fatherhood (bleffedly providing inheritance for childrens children) abhorreth the son as unblessed that provideth not in like love for his own family, but deceive th them in cutting off childrens children from inheritance which their fore-fathers had provided for them.

So may the fon feem unbleffed who would cut off his young children from the benefit which hee received for himself and them by forefathers faith in prayers for their interest in the signall covenant of grace to be sealed heirs of heaven in Gods most mercifull acceptance of fuch faithfull officiousness of forefathers or others in dispensation of other duties by the manifold graces of God for one to help an others weakeness, in the body mysticall as well as politicall; Pupills have Guardians, Courts of Justice, sureties stand bound untill ripe age, then they fue out their liveries and take into their own confideration what are their duties; how know they but by witnesses, or understand but by counsellors? Iohn 1. As many as received Christ, to them gave he power (the right or privilege) to become the sons of God, To them that believe in his name: How shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? Rom.10.

Pro-

Chap. 10. Numb. 4. Preaching exciteth to consider, and directeth to find that privilege right or power of Gods children in actuall believing and living as they ought, whether then presently converted unto Christ in their full age, or in minority before adopted in in the name of Christ; a foederall adoption which whosoever have, certainly they were elected hereunto; therein also they were elect unto that their great and bleffed help of prayer in publique congregation, where God delighteth to be trusted earnestly, charitably, and faithfully beleeving his promise to hear the prayer of Faith that the Lord would graciously vouchfase to sanctifie and bless his ordinance of baptism, that he would joyn the inward baptism of his Spirit with the outward baptism of the water, and make this baptism to the Infant (the baptized) a seal of adoption, remission of sin, regeneration, and eternall life, and of all other promises of the Covenant of grace, or.

At fuller age it were another good help for affurance of their continuance to pray so for themselves rather than to speak against their affectionate Mother Ghurch, against her directory so to pray, and against her thanksgiving unto God for them in hope of his blessing upon such good meanes which they had so long wanted as unbaptised, in danger of utter destruction for ever, if cut off before bap-

tilin for contempt.

No just occasion of contemning appeareth in the words that are by way not of addition but of explication in prayer, as bid to call on God, Ads 2. for the baptised to receive effectually the benefits,

Mercies and Fruits of Christs institution which Chap. II. comprehendeth what Christ did as what he said for our imitation at baptism; As (hoc facite) do this leadeth to consider what Christ did, and what he said for our imitation at the Lords supper; though each circumstance be not required in that charge of imitation as to receive unleavened bread, and after supper, Judaicall rites to be pre-accomplished by Christ answerable to the figure at the age of thirty when hee was to begin the publique dispensation of the new covenant at institution of baptism, he gave no rule for others to delay their baptizing untill they attained his age, or to be baptised at Jordan were he was in a mystery.

CHAP. XI.

The least baptized mystically partake under the spiritual Ministery for their deliverance from spiritual Ægypt into Christs Kingdom in spirit, his Spirit on the seed of Jacob, his blessing on the buds, demes. Numb. 2. The Spirit and Water co-ordained: Co-ordination openeth the sense of Sacramentall speeches.

Infants delivered from Spiritual Ægypt,

138, Chap.11. Numb. 1.

Number 1.



Et may fordan be well remembred by us; not that any should delay their baptism as Constantine acknowledged at Nichomedia that he had delayed until he was ready to dye. The wisdom of our reformers added that Christs bap-

tism sanctified other waters also for this mysticall use, though that of Jordan were specially renowned in respect of Christs own baptism, as before by the purgation of Naaman's leprofy, figuring baptismall purgation of the Gentiles from the guilt of sin by a new spirit, and before that (in figure of our baptismall entrance into the Kingdom of Christ) for the Israelites entrance into the land of promise as out from bondage through the red Sea (all mystically baptized, young and old, with spiritualls, 1. Cor 10.2, 11. as types for our learning) so through Jordan for a memoriall, in that when the ark of the covenant passed, the waters of Jordan were cut off from running towards the dead Sea of sodom, 12 shosen men for every Tribe one, carried from thence twelve stones to the first lodging place in their possession as a token for the remembrance of Gods mercy for ever according to his covenant.

The first nights lodging was at Gilgal the place of their circumcission, Joshua 5. so joyning together both types of our baptism, their children though Insants were spiritually comforted and baptized in their passage from bondage of Ægypt through the red Sea, and through Jordan, into the holy land of

promise sigurative of Christs Kingdom. Chap. 11.

These being our types, therefore our children Numb. 2. (as under covenant of more spirituall ministery) to be spiritually baptised for their passage from spirituall Ægyptian servitude of sin into the Kingdom of Christ, the entrance whereof by the Spirit as in a new birth of spirituall life, Christ hath affirmed to be by Water and an unspeakable gift of God, 2 Cor. 9. but very credible by covenant for his Spirit to thee and thy feed and thy feeds feed for ever, in secret primary mysteries of seed of Father-hood, Mother-hood, Bowells, Womb, Navill, Prov. 3. 8. Cant. 7.2. For sustenance of Infants; Nerolike schismest thou thy Mother-church alive in torments of anatomy to find what God hath hid from thee revealing her brests and dewes that tarry not for man? his promised Spirit on thy buds, his Spirit. or wind blowing on thy gardens sweets, Herbs, Plants, Roots, small and great, from the four winds with bleffings on the whole house of Israel, enlivening their children and childrens children for ever, Ezekiel chap.37.11.25.

The wind bloweth where it listeth saith Christ, about Numb. 2the new born of God, John 3. We are wonderfully generated & wonderfully regenerated at baptism, the washing of our regeneration & renewing of the holy Ghost. Tit. 3. When Christ was baptised the holy Ghost descended visibly for a majestick warrant of credence the more readily to be trusted in his ordinance of baptismall grace for others, Acts 2. Respent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins (the sin of Adam) infecting all so soon as they are children of Adam)

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and

The Spirit and Water co-ordained.

Chap. 11. Numb. 2. 2

and yee shall receive the gift of the holy Ghost, for the promise is to you and to your children: behold the gift of the holy Ghost, to them and to their children; to the Jewes out of every nation under heaven. This is that which was spoken of by the prophet Joel, And it shall come to pass in the last daies, I will powr out my spirit upon all sless, saith God, who is the best interreter of his own abundant mercies. Having said there, Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the Elders, Gather the children and those that such at the breasts, He thereupon addeth, I will powr out my spirit upon all sless,

Such children as God spake of when he made this faithfull promise, such children are included in his

mercifull performance.

But God spake of such children sucking at the

breasts when he made this promise, Joel 2.

Therefore children sucking at the breasts are included in his mercifull performance; his mercifull performance; his mercifull performance was with baptism and the holy Ghost by Peters interpretation of the promise, To them and to their children: Therefore baptism and the holy Ghost by Gods faithfull and mercifull permance of his promise are ordained to fanctify suck-

ing children.

The promised effusion of Spirit upon all Flesh, implying not onely that miracle of sierie tongues then, but inward sanctification of grace for remission of sin at baptism unto them as ar off in time and place, by Reters interpretation Acts 2. the washing of regeneration, renewing of the holy Ghost, which he hath powered out abundantly through Jesus Christour, Saviour, that being justified by grace we

Should

should be made heirs according to the hope of eternall Chap. 11. life, Tit. 3. Hee faith, through Chriss For Christ as a Numb. 2. mysticall head powreth of his Spirit, into the eye, the finger or other least parts of his Church as his mysticall body, for we are baptized in one Spirit, 1 Cor. 12. that is the washing of regeneration, by a figurative speech which hath sour severall expressions in holy Scripture.

1. The name of the sign is given to the thing signified; as the name of the Paschall Lamb, of the

Rock, and of Bread, given to Christ.

2. The name of the thing fignified is given to the fign; as the name of blood to the fruit of the vine, the Name of Christs body to the bread.

3. The use of the sign (as eating and drinking) is

applied to the thing signified.

4. The use of the thing signified is applied to the sign; As Christ his bearing of our sins was applied to the Goat in sacrifice, on whose head the Priest

laied his hand, and put the fins of the people.

The ground of such usuall figurative speechin holy Scriptures is not onely the likeness or similitude betwixt the sign and the signified, to help our weak understanding (that through visible outward things ascendeth more easily to consider of Heavenly) but chiefly the coordination of them to help our faith, as by a seal to believe assuredly that by receiving the sign we have right also to partake in the benefit of the thing signified, by the good good will of our Saviour in his covenant of mercy coordeining the sign and the thing signified joyntly for the faithfull receiver.

Sprinkling washing. CHAP. XII. Chap. 12.

Sprinkling, washing: as in the figure, so in the figured, and in prophecies for sprinkling Nations. Numb. 2. Christs warning against nakedness, it is a snare, and abomination.

NUMBER I.

Utward washing of Water and inward inspiring of Grace, as a new birth, which put together therefore might be so caled, the washing of Regeneration, we being born again to live a new life in Christ through affured faith in his Covenant; Heb. Chap. 10. 22. In full assurance of faith having our hearts sprinkled from an evill conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water, Letus hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering: For he is faithfull that promised, &c. As in the former speech the use of the sign [washing] was applied to the regeneration, Here (fprinkling) is applied likewise to signify purifying of faithfull soules from the guilt and fowlness of an evill conscience, by grace as instrumentall cause, and the bloodshed of Christ as meritorious cause, through faith believing the covenant of Remission as applied at the walling with water sprinkled on the baptised by Christs ordinance of new covenant more spirituall: And therfore not requiring more of materiality than the old type, Heb.9. 19.He took the blood with water and sprinkled the book

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Numb. I .

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which God hath enjoyned you. All that had any of the Numb. I.

sprinkling were accepted, aswel they that were prinkled with less as they that were sprinkled with less as they that were sprinkled with

The benefit arifing by Gods acceptance in his good pleasure for his glory, through the covenant of his mercy, not for the abundance of the material sign (then blood with water) a little sign being enough for assurance of his infinite mercy by that voice from the Throne to small and great; The small having precedence in expression of Gods lo-

ving providence toward all.Rev. 19.

5. The foul after the image of God whole in every part of the body, the washing of the whole may be fignified by washing one part of the body, specially the face, appearing as it were for the whole. and many drops being sprinkled upon one little face may suffice in Gods sight to whom many Nations are as one drop, Isaiah 40. 15. a drop is round and hath the nature of the whole element, as a spark is fire & may enkindle a great flame to burn a great City, neither is a drop of less ability to quench that spark; yea, had it not been too late after death to cry for help in that torment of flame, by the tip of a finger dipt in water, Luke the 16. the tip of a baptizers finger through Gods Ordinance might have preserved the penitent from that everlasting flame into which he defired his brethren might not come. God grant the grace of providence unto all others that by delay of baptism they fall not into the same endless, easeless and remediless fire.

For prevention whereof it may be Christ used this

Chap. 12. Numb. 1. this parable, or if it were a story, what miserable Dives (in remembrance of what he had seen used in baptising) perhaps did wish we said, that the very top of a singer baptising might cool that tormenting slame, an effect so great, that unlikely to be wished upon so small means unless upon supposall of such like covenant though out of season, Zach.4. Who art thou that despises the day of small things? 1 Cor. 1. God hath chosen weak things to confound the strong, that no steps should be presumptuous in his presence: It was a great offence of wosull consequence, as to eat the forbidden apple, so to distrust in that little Manna like coriander seed.

A little seal in wax is enough for assurance of evidence in a great purchase, a little washing by way of token or sign in covenant of Christianity may oblige a Christian to patience in suffering with Christ, that he may reign with Christ, this is the similitude oC hrists death unto which we are baptized, that we may be like him in resurrection, twofold.

The first from sin to the new life of grace.

The second to the new life of glory; The tense is future, Rom. 6.5. We shall be (to wit) in the likeness of the resurrection, if we be planted into the likeness of his death; How? it is expounded in the sixt verse, Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth wee should not serve sin; for he that is dead is freed from sin; Now if we be dead with Christ, wee believe that we shall also live with him. The death of Christ was by crucifixion; The crucifixion of Christ is not resembled by immersion into the water: Therefore the death of Christ is not resembled by immersion

into the water. Or what resemblance betwixt the Chap. 12. rock of Christs sepulcher in a Garden, and the flow. Numb. 2. ing stream of Jordan? resemblance appeareth not, but assurance of our hallowed rest by vertue of Christs buriall, as represented to our belief, for our refurrection, Rom. 6.8. Ausévauer, We believe that me shall also live with him. This Faith in our co-resurrection is that intended in baptism by St. Pauls own interpretation, Colos. 2. 12. Ala The miceus, buried with kim in baptism, wherein also you are risen through faith of the operation of God who hath raised him from the dead: And you being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your stess, bath he quickned together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses, being circumcifed with the circumcision made without hands as St. Paul there promised; to shew how baptism succeedeth in effect as a new kind of circumcifion mysticall, engaging therefore Infants again according to their former interest of such in circumcisson; by fuch resemblance reall in spirit and in truth vanisheth your imaginary resemblance signall in buriall under water, which St. Paul could not institute, nor doth expresly teach to be requisite by the generall tenour of Christs institution.

Beware of flesh and blood in hanckering too much Num. 2. after what is carnall in materials. It is not much water for putting away the filth of the flesh; but the answer of a good conscience which now sayeth us by baptism, as siguratively Noah was saved in the Ark from the flood of water; After which, excessive trust in the creature brought unto his shame drunkenness and nakedness together: If that high virtuous David were overcome by seeing once one,

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how

146 Chap. 12. Num. 2.

how are they fure not to fall into temptation who lust to see so many nakednesses though in pretended washing?

The Scripture is express for covering [Marke. 1, 4, 5. John baptizing was clothed and guirded) not express for such uncovering in baptism as hath been committed with same and scandals; as if they had not read our Saviours caution, Revel. 16. 15. blessing such as keep their garments, That they be not found naked to their shame, by way of Parenthesis, advertizing thus amidst the plagues of the last and worst Mysticall stormings, as it were purposely to prevent or correct such abuses.

The foul Spirits, which through affectation of knowledg made our first Parents shamefully naked, have no less will nor less skill by the allurements of over-wise curiosity to make naked still out of discontent or distrust of what is in the Name of God

all-fufficient.

That his holy will be not despighted under shew of bettering his Ordinances, which with his concurrence once don are don for ever; thus his Prophecy prescribed: I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean from all your filthiness, Ezek. cap. 36. 25. And He shall sprinkle many Nations, Esaias 52. 15. Is not that a promise for Baptism? that is washing though with little water, enough, as in sprinkling, Numb. cap. 19. 12. 13. 18. 19. 20. 21. is expounded to be washing, Heb. 19. 10. Matth. 3. John had his raiment of Camels hair, and a leather girdle about his loines: we read not that John or any other were ungirded to baptise or be baptised.

If that Eunuch voluntarily went into the water,

that

what he received there by *Philips* act to baptife him: It was neither necessary nor likely to be totall immersion in his apparell, nor is there any disapparelling of the whole body mentioned or implied; But rather according to the sashion of that Eastern Countrey wherein they had onely Sandalls on their seet slipping them off they might wade into the water, and by aspersion, or persusion, receive a watrie token by the hand of sacred Ministery betokening their faith in the promised assistance of the Holy Ghost for cleansing their souls inwardly by vertu of Christs Prayer for sanctification in his Covenant,

Luke cap. 3. 21. 22.

Did not the Baptist in such Prophetique sense of humiliation protest, I am not worthy to untie the latchet of his shoes? in service it may seem preparatorie for such his Baptism-Evidence. Enough of that Fastern fashion. Luke 7. 44. simon seest thou this woman, she hathwashed my feet with teares and wiped them with the haires of her head; since the time I came in she hath not ceased to kiss my feet, Luke 24. See my hands and my feet that it is I, John 13. He washed the disciples feet, Ads 12. Peters Sandalls argue the like fashion, as they had another gesture of accubitus at their last supper not required at ours: now such; Nationall Circumstances being not essentiall by institution for all, And the sick unsit to be dipt in a River might be baptised though they dispaired of recovery, So that their Counsellors in Physick gave them off as dead in judgment of Art, 1 Cor. 15. Enviest thou that Children should have the benefit of like help and care for their weakness? Rather

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approve

Nakedness a Snare and Abomination.

1.48 Chap. 13.

approve their sprinkling for convenience of their baptism, than disprove their baptism for sprinkling upon so manifold urgencies of reason in holy writ; about what Christ sent to Nations after publique Nationall advisement and consent of lawfull authority, tenderness of good conscience may conside in Regular Obedience to Christian guidance, which God bless unto them that need, as this Countrey disputant humbly prayeth in charity with zeal against deceivable contradiction.

CHAP, XIII.

Object. About the word of Faith, Rom. 10. Numb. 1. Answer, It is the Parents faith for them and their Children: proved by all the four Testimonies there alleged out of the old Testament, Isaiah 52. Deut. 30. Numb. 2. God accepteth Infants among penitents after example of the Ninivits to which the word of faith reserveth, Rom. 10. by Christ exceeding Jonah. Numb. 3. Infants included in those that call upon God

Number 1.



He word of Faith prooved to take hold of Children at Baptism by all the four testimonies of holy Prophets alleged in that very tenth Chapter to the Romans: as Verse 15. How beautifull are the feet of them that preach the Gospell of peace?]

which Isaiab foretold of Christ in singular; How beautifull are the feet of him that publisheth peace? Christ and his Ministers in his name preach the same Gospell of peace, and that too applyed by Baptisin as followeth in that same 52. Chapter of Isaiah; Be yee clean yee that bear the vessells of the Lord: yee are the greater vessells, But yee bear the lesser vessells to be made clean by sprinkling with water, so shall he sprinkle many Nations. Yee Ministers of such good newes remember it is for little young ones as well as old, in accomplishment of what God promised to his People aforetime when they went into Egypt to Sojourn there, Behold already prepared for you (in the fourth verse of that Chap.) a Prophetique light of Reference to Genesis 46, 47. where God faid to Jacob, I the God of thy Father will goe with thee into Egypt, and will also surely bring thee up againe; thereupon Incob arole and his sonns carried him and their little Ones, as in Event through the Red Sea figuring Baptism: So the Prophet Isaiah there Chap. 52. foreshewed the return to Zion: Awake.

Word of Faith appertaineth to Children.

Chap. 13. Num. 2.

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Awake, awake, put on thy beautifull garments O ferusalem the holy City, there shall we more come into Thee the uncircumcised and the unclean, break forth into joy, for the Lord hath comforted his people, the name of his holy people (as at first) containing Fathers and Childrens Children, even little ones, to be comforted and cleansed by holy sprinkling; are not the Preachers of the good Tidings of the Gospell of Peace here to be rather for, than against the baptizing of little ones?

Numb. 2.

Secondly, That this word of Faith appertaineth to Children, by that faith of their Parents, It is manifestly prooved by looking to the place from whence the word of Faith (here Rom. 10.7, 8.) is alleged (out of Deut. cap. 30. v. 12, 13,14.) Look to the antecedents & to the consequents, And then to

the very word s there.

In the antecedents at the 6. verse of that 30. chapter of Deut. [The Lord thy God will circumcise thine heart, and the heart of thy seed to love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, that thou mayest live] A promise, by the first verse of this, applied to those in the precedent chapter with their little Children in Covenant with God. 10, 11, 12, 13, 14. like as the Lord had professed before, Deut. chap. 1. 39. Your little ones which ye said should be a prey, which in that day had no knowledg between good and evill, to them will I give the Land promised to their Fathers. Secondly, look into the consequents, Deut. 30. 19, 20. Remember the Parents choice beneficiall to their feed, the feed living by their Parents choice for themselves and for their little Children to live in Covenant with God amongst his beloved

People

People, and that forepraised Psalm, inviting the Chap. 13. Nations to joyn with the people of Israel in that Num. 3. blessed condition of their Children as well as them-

selves to live in Covenant with God, Deut. 32.43.

From this collation of confequences aswell as antecedents come we to that word of faith Dent. 30. 13, 14. So nigh that thou needest not say who shall

goe over the Sea for us.

The Hebrew exposition in the Jerusalem Targum Num. 3.

hath it [That thou shouldst say, O that we had one like Jonasthe Prophet that might go down into the bottom of the great Sea and bring it to us] Christ delighteth in the Evangelicall sense of this comparison betwixt his own death three dayes, and Jonas his journey through the Sea to preach unto the Ninivites the word which by consequence of their repentance had in effect mercy to them and their small Children.

The people of Nineveh believed God, and put on fackcloth, from the greatest of them even to the least of them, partaking in this mournfull guise as they were capable, and in the fasting commanded by full authority, likewise in the crying mightily; the Lord heard the cry of the least thus changed as penitents in their way, the Lord shewed mercy to the least for their penitent parents sake, what if one should say for their own, yea and for their sake to the parents, or rather to both forts for his own glories sake? [Should not I spare Nineveh that great City wherein are more than fix score thousand persons that cannot discern betwixt the right hand and the left?]

A greater than Jonas is here, said Christ of his own glory, in ableness, and greater in willingness of merChap. 13. Numb. 3.

cy to Small and Great alike in guiltiness of originall fin by the first Adams disobedience, alike needding help of Christ the second Adam for their pardon, and accordingly behold like helpfull mercy, Micah 5. 7. And the remnant of Jacob shall be as a Dew from the Lord, as the Showres upon the grass that tarrieth not for man. Micah cap. 6.4. 0 my people, I sent before thee Moses, by interpretation Drawn out, for as much as drawn out of the Ark of Bulrushes from danger of perishing by water, that he might be prepared with confidence of Gods mercy to lead out the Children of Israel, great and small, through the red Sea, in figure of Baptism now saving by vertue of Christ his death called his Exodus, Luke cap. 9.31.by Moses appearing there to magnify the glory of Christs passage through the red Sea of his bloodshed for the Redemption of small as wel as great: Hear yee now what the Lord saith there by Micah cap. 6. I sent before thee Moses and Miriam, 0 my people remember now what Balak consulted with Balaam that he might see the uttermost part of the people, Numb. cap. 22. 41. that yee might know the righteoufness of the Lord: who would not suffer him-to curse the utmost, hindermost, or of most mean, of smallest age among them, cap. 7.14, 15, 18, 19, 20. As in the dayes of old according to thy coming out of the land of Ægypt ____ who God like unto thee that pardoneth iniquity and posseth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage, He reteineth not his anger for ever because he delighteth in mercy - Thou wilt cast all their sins into the depth of the Sea; Thou wilt perform the truth unto Jacob, the mercy which thou hast sworn unto our Fathers from the dayes of old.

O true and mercifull word of faith to be believed Chap. 13. by Parents (Jacob like) for them and their Children, Numb. 4. and by Ghildren also, for themselves and their Children age after age, through the deep mysteries of Christs death, like Jonas his passage through the Sea, to preach the Word of God, so wonderfull in effect of mercy toward Infants, thus interessed in the benefit of Christs death applyed by Baptism, Rom. 6. according to that word of faith, Rom. 10.8. according also to the prayer of faith in the 13 verse Numb. 4. of that chapter, grounded upon promise from Joel's Prophecy, where after preparatory monitions in the I chap. 3.14. hear this ye old men (tell ye your Children and their Children another generation: Sanctify yee a fast, call a solemn Assembly, gather the Elders, all the Inhabitants of the land to the House of the Lord your God, and cry unto the Lord, Chap. 2.16.) who requireth Children to be gathered into that holy prayerfull Assembly (to fill up the cry) Rom. 8. 26. The Spirit helpeth our instrmities, and maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. If the strongest are glad to plead infirmities, how can any deny the benefit of infirmity to the more infirm by the Spirits unspeakable help? Without speech as a feed-root or principle inwardly moving in Children so required to cry by the Lord, who putteth teares in his bottle as precious, and fighes in his register as prayers of immortall soules of his own appointing, his mercifulness excelling infinitely the tender compassion of Mothers and Nurses, who day and night fatisfy the necessities of Infants upon their cryes as Prayers efficacious for help unto themselves, and usually procuring helps of mercies to

call upon God.

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their Mothers and Nurses also by such cryes.

Secondly the cryes of Parents and others compassionate friends in prayers for the Children, and the cryes of Gods Ministers in Prayers for both Parents and Children, and the cries of the High-Priests in prayers for them all, and for sanctification of all their prayers as was used every day, much more all (then in great dangers) were in that solemn assembly to cry for preservation of all, in their severall duties united as one man for better acceptance of their prayers in love, to the greater praise of the Lord God their preserver: who for preserving the whole families of Israel accepted the first born, as holy to him from among the old, Numb. cap. 18. 15. And for each first born his holiness accepted a Levit to serve the Priests, and the Priests to offer sacrifice upon the Altar, and prayers, and over them the High-Priest daily to offer prayers as Incense on the Altar of Incense in the holy place, with fire taken from the Altar wherein the Lamb was offered for a daily burnt Sacrifice, significative of the death of Christ, to be offered by the fiery zeal of Christs Iove for redemption of young and old: All this being implied by the utmost earnestness of the Priests, as Ministers of the Lord, crying in prayer between the Porch and the Altar (cap. 2.17. of Joel.)

Thirdly, the Spirit (who knoweth the secrets of God) intended all this for the blessing there promised as most needfull for all the members requisit in that crying assembly to be sanctified by the Spirit: I will pour out my Spirit upon all sless, all forts which the Lord required to be present in that assembly: Sucking-Infants being required there estimates

pecially.

Fourthly

Fourthly, that promise of the Spirit intended Chap. 13. obedience in the season of Children from age to Numb. 4. age, as it appeareth, AEs 2. by application of thatpromise upon the very day of Pentecost, when the first born were to meet at Jerusalem as an holy pre-Tentative of Israel, Exod. 23. it being the very day wherein the law was formerly given at Sinai, with two gracious Allaies of Evangelicall mercies by Covenant in present acceptance of Children, because of Gods love to their parents, Deut. 4. 37. and expectative faithfulness of Childrens duties in future feafons as they that should grow able to learn from parents and Ministers of Gods Word, Deut. cap. 5. 2, 28, 29. The Lord our God made a Covenant with us in Horeb—— speak thousantous all that the Lord our Godshall speak unto thee, and we will do it ---- And the Lord said, the People have spoken well-othat there were such an heart in them——Alwaies, that it might be well with them and with their Children after them for ever, Deut. cap.6.2 7 20. or elswhere more largely: Now in the sense of foels prophecy thus opened, Almighty God accepteth the Prayers of Israel in that solemn Assembly for Infants as required in the common cry through the Spirit helping infirmities (wayes unutterable,) And as one with their first-born brethren, One with their Parents, One with their Deputy-Levites, One with the Ministers, and One with the High-Priest Osficiating before the Lord for a memoriall of all the Tribes of Israel and their members as One man.

Fiftly, This holy Prophetique Spirit of Prayerfull unity prepared for Infants baptizing actively and passively; Actively, Luke 1. 10. the multitude call upon God.

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of the people were praying without at the time of Incense offered by Zachary the Priest, upon whose prayer the Angell brought the glad tidings for conception of John that was to be Baptizer in the Spirit of Elias, to turn the heart of Parents to their children, and the heart of children to their Parents, so joyning the end of the old Testament with the beginning of the New as one in this substance of holy Covenant for union betwixt Parents & Children and betwixt

People and Ministers of the Lord in prayer.

Passively; Acts 1.14. These all continued with one accord in prayer, and chap. 2. They were all with one accordinane place on the day of Pentecost, when the Holy Ghost descended, and Peter said, This is that which was spoken of the Prophet Joel - Repent and be baptized, for the promise is to you and to your Children-for applying the benefit of the promise, take the seal for affurance thereof. The seal is Baptism; Be ye baptized therefore applying the benefit of the promise to you and your Children even fuch as were meant in the promise which God made when He called for Infants sucking at the breasts to partake in the bleffing promised.

As by vertue of Christs prayer, his prayer for the Spirit on the Baptized, and for fulfilling all righteoulness by dealing for them who need, as all need him both small and great, for remission of sin, Matth. 3. Christ his prayer for them whosoever shall believe in after generations, and that the world might believe, John 17. 20, 21. Christ his prayer at death for them who knew not what they did, Luke 23. on the tree of the Cross, promising Paradise and opening way thereby to the tree of life in which he graffeth the baptized.

The prayer of Christ at the right hand of God, Chap. 13. his continual intercession able to save to the ut-Numb. 4. termost 70 mursels to all ends for Young and Old that come unto God by him, Heb. 7. 25. in his Priest-hood after the Order of Melchizedeck, blessing Ahraham Father of the faithful, in whose blessed he believed that all Nations were to be saved before he had any Seed, God calling things to come, as if they were already; suffer little Children to come to me said Christ; how? by their Parents or friends arms bringing them to Christs Arms, Mark 10. Are not such among the called of the Lord, whom the Lord calleth for himself, and blesseth when they come? thus Infants helped of others passively to their Baptism.

To which agreeth also the word of Faith grounded on that other Prophetique testimony, Rom. 10. 20. I was found of them that fought me not, I was made manifest to them who asked not after me, from Esaias 65. 1. 23, 24. They shall not labour in vain, for they the Seed of the bleffed of the Lord, and their Budds or of spring with them -- before they call I will answer, the next verse referring to the eleventh Chapter of Esaias, where at the Ensign (Baptism the Sign of Nations obedience to the Kingdom) of Christ, Infants and Children sucking at the breasts, meet with Vipers, applied by John the Baptist at the time of baptizing, Matth. 3. Thus the Word of Faith, and the Power of Faith, take hold of baptized Infants, whether by the Seed of Faith in the unspeakable gift of the Spirit, or in the prayers of Parents or other Sureties by vertue of Christ his prayer for futurition of good seasons, enough to bind them in Covenant

X 3

unto

call upon God

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Chap. 13. Num. 4. unto the duties of Faith as shall come the sooner the better.

Affirmative precepts oblige in vertue semper, non ad semp r, this præcept of Faith bindeth all in Covenant still, but not still to the Acts of Faith, untill ripeness of Age and opportunities, Ads theso. If thou believest thou maist be baptized; To beget from that Particular Affirmative about an Eunuch, an Universality to the denial of others, were an unreafonale fallacy by the Judgement of common experience in mens discourses, allowing respits of duties according to the diversities of ages capable of fayour, to infants in states of Coppihold or Inheritance, which yet require actuall Homageat admittance of the Elder; actuall Faith is of absolute necessity to Salvation onely, then when want of Faith absolutely bringeth damnation, Mark 16. 16. He that believeth not shall be damned, which our Saviour himself expounds to be in the last day, John 12.48. the word that I have spoken shall in he last day judge him; He that receiveth not my word, he receiveth not me. Such infidelity damne h, when it is finallibut he who received not the Word yesterday, may to day, he that to day rejecteth Christ in the morning, may believe and obey, in the eleventh hour; Behold now is the accepted time, now is the day of Salvation, 2 Cor. 6. 2. 100, nunc seculo, As Matth. 12.31., voi, extendeth to the whole life of Man without remission ; So the [now] extendeth to the whole life of Man for acceptance to Salvation; when soever in heart he consenteth to believe in the Covenant of grace; then may it be truly faid, now is the day of Salvation, now is the accepted time of faving Faith, to

be-

believe through the blood of the everlasting Cove- Chp. 13.

Gods everlasting love, decrees, and purposes do Coexist and Cooperate by grace, in whatsoever differences of time efficacious grace doth Operate in the baptized, Exod. 3. when God would be known to the Glory of his Name in delivering Small and Great from Ægypt, and favouring the Small more in Event, as those which he purposed to bring into the Land of Promise, Figurative of Heaven, whereas in our translation he hath this name[I am that I am] the Hebrew word properly fignifieth [I will be what I will be] specially delighting in magnification of his Glory for the Future, though present alwaies, simul & semel, in the nunc of eternity, which verifieth the future in words præterit, Rom. 8. whom he hath prædestinated he hath called &c. In his wisdom omniscient, with power omnipotent, both omnipresent in affisting as well as ordaining all opportunities in Christ, the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever, opening the everlasting doors as King of Glory, Priest for ever to save of marrales to the uttermost, the great Prophet upon Oath to fulfill all which the Prophecies have declared for Small and Great in mysterious holy ratihabitions of Faith; if thou comprehended not, reprehend not,

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Obj. About putting on Uwist at Baptism

CHAP. XIIII.

Object. Numb. 1. About putting on Christ at baptism Gal. 3. Answered. Numb. 2. Object. About the answer of a good conscience, accommodate.

NUMBER I.

Ccommodation: Christ was put on them, when they were baptized to be Members of his mystical body the Church, to be covered with the Garment of his Righteousness, through the merits of his bloodshed to wash them from the guiltiness of sin in his name, as their surety paying their debts, and becomming a Mediator of the new Covenant betwixt God and the faithfull, according to their prayers offaith in that Covenant of mercy, to them and to their Children, through Christ his righteousness, applied unto them in Christ, when Baptized in his holy name; so made one mysticall Christ, by his good pleasure to have interest in him & his righteousness; And trusting in that alone, and glorying in that alone, as called thereunto; yea & known to be the true Church of Christ, by professing it for her felf and all her true Children, as the Prophet of the Lord foreshewed in praise of the Covenant of mercy that endureth for ever, Jerusalem skall dwell safely,

and

and this is the name wherewith she shall be called [The Chap. 14. Lord our righteousness] Jeremia 33.76. Ours: mo-Numb. 1. therly dear affection holding fast her young under her best garment, and most precious ornament, her husbands heavenly good pleasure, for adorning and fubbrachiating them neer to his heart, under his white garment of love, both fafely together. Loe the son of Righteousness, Malach. 4 Christ his Face shining as the sun, Rev. chap. 1. Rev. 12.1.5.17. The Sun Clothing the woman pregnant, and pained to be delivered of her Man-child: after which the remnant of her seed. So ferusalem the mother of us all according to the analogie of sarah and her young Isaac in Covenant of Grace, a Covenant of faith: the Parents faith believing the promise before the Child was born, and afterwards all the time of his Minority, for example of all Nations to be bleffed in him, Rom. chap. 4.16, 17, 24, 25. bleffedly believing the Covenant of Grace by faith about a Child and to a Child for the time to come, faith imputed for righteousness unto Abraham as believing the promise, and faith to be imputed unto the Nations for righteousness in believing Christ to be raised from death for Justification of them and their young Children in that Covenant to bleffed Isaac as a pattern of grace in that allegory.

For contempt whereof Ismael cast out of the samily became a pattern of the Israelits, and that bloody ferusalem, degenerated into the condition of

Hagar.

Take heed of mocking at the Covenanted interest of the young, by God judged persecution there. Gal. cap. 4. 29. 27. Now we bethren are Children of the

Obje. About the Answer of a good Conscience

Chap. 14. Numb. 2.

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promise as Isaac was, before he believed actually, by vertue of his Father Abrahams faith: so we by vertue of the faith of our parents and ghostly Fathers, ministers of Christ his Church, by vertue of Christ his Commission for admitting all Nations at baptism in his Name; so putting Christ on the faith-

full and their Children.

Christ was put on them at baptism who were then not to be Circumcised; But the Jewes children were not then to be Circumcifed; Therefore the Jewes children had Christ put on them then: If you be Circumcifed Christ shall profit you nothing, you are fallen from Grace; to which you were called in Christ whom you have put on at baptism, out of whom you fall again if you are Circumcifed 3 They that are freed from Circumcision have Christ put on them at baptism; Children are freed from Circumcision; Therefore Children have Christ put on them at baptism; their freedom is in Christ put on at baptism's stand in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made you free. The wisdom of the Holy Ghostieproved the Galathians as if they were bewitched in refuling the grace of fuch liberty for them and their children in Christ from the bond that was sured for ever, on them not to be exonerated, but in mystery by some higher verification of Christ put on : and that putting on is by Covenant of union with Christ in spirit at baptism in his name.

Namb.2.

2. Obj. I Pet. 3. That which now faveth us is the answer of a good conscience, like Noah his Arke. Accommodation; The benefit of that preservation was to usall, young and old, preserved in Noah and his sonns then, but by the fatherly providence

of

of Noah, praised, Hebr. chap. 11.

Noah by faith being warned of God of things not seen Chap. 14. (then) as yet moved with fear prepared an Ark for the Numb. 2. faving of his Family, by which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith: faith in believing; what? Gods promise or Covenant so to save him & his family : Faith about what things, unfeen? about the flood, and about faving them of his family then unseen, as unborn (it may feem) or but new born; when he began to prepare for the preservation of himself & of his family to the condemnation of unbelievers, when he preached unto them Gods righteous anger against sinfull mankind: Anger revealed, when? in the next words precedent, Noah was five hundred years old, and he begat Sem, Ham, and Japhet: Sem about two yeares after. Sem an hundred yeares old two yeares after the flood, Gen. 11. and the flood came in the six hundredth year of Noah his life, Gen. 7. by which Interpreters argue Japhet to be elder, Noah begetting Children about the 500. year of his age, about his beginning to prepare for their preservation by faith in Gods Covenant, afterward established with him and his that entred into the Ark, I Pet. 3. to the praise of Gods longanimity, long patience, in the dayes of the Ark prepared, μακροθυμία, the long affection of God expecting the triall on the one side of the disobedient scorners, and on the other side of ripening obedience unto the Covenant which the Father in faith had undertaken for his Childrens preservation by water; in, Cui, to which the Corresponding Antitype in baptism that now saveth us, now prepareth us to be faved in fellowship

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Chap. 14. Num. 2. with Christ everlastingly, by virtue of his Resurrection to raise us up again; Not the putting away the silth of the slesh, as by washing, which is the outward token; but more principally, the Spirituall part in duties of a good Conscience, Asking, Stipulating, Interrogating, Answering, as the word is diversly translated upon supposal of these diverse significations, all contained in this word, implication to ask God in Prayer, as Christ implyeth, Ich. 16. 26. and Luke 7. 3. in that word was the Petition that Christ would save or preserve.

1. In this alowed sense at Baptisin, as the Minister asketh in prayer unto God; So the Parents or their Supplies ask in their prayer unto God for the baptized, and the baptized Infants afterwards are

to ask in praying for themselvs.

2. This is to be the prayer of Faith, believing the Covenant in Gods holy Name at his Command for

baptizing all Nations.

3. This prayer of Faith in obedience to Gods command, and in belief of Gods Covenant, implieth those Acts of Duty to be covenanted in seafons respectively, so to pray and believe as in truth

each of their bounden duty.

4. This respective covenanting for Acts of their own duties, implieth also Stipulation Ministeriall and Paternall. The Minister in the name of the church, under whose Charge, Nurture and Education the Motherhood of holy church admitteth and sealeth the baptized among her children as Gods children by his Ordained, and her trusted Minstery, may be said to be stipulate; undertaking

her part in the Covenant betwixt Christ and his Chap. 14. young babes; for whose Future sidelity their Fa-Num. 2. thers also may be Sponsors to stipulate and undertake the Vow of Duty for their Children, that in acceptable time the Children may with their own gratefull consent be bound to perform and stipulate for their Children, in saithfullness, to sanctify the perpetual fruitfulness of Holy Church.

5. This holy stipulating or undertaking by way of surety needeth and therefore implieth Interrogation, to mind of these duties. As what dost thou here Eliah in Spirit forerunning the baptizer? and Secondary baptizers interrogating Sureties; and both Ministers and Sureties afterwards interrogating the baptized in Catechism for consent unto

he vows in their names.

6. By such needfull Interrogations, intending aithfull answers of a good conscience unto God, hat the baptized with their own after consent, hay willingly stand bound in the promises and vowes as it was before covenanted for them.

7. There is intended also seeking in prayer unto God for grace, that such answer of a good conscience with these other duties may effectually preare the baptized in faith of the Covenant-blessing b be saved by the Resurrection of Christ Jesus un-

blife everlasting.

8. The Notion of all these duties being all comrized by virtual Implication in the large sense of tis impument the word here signifying virtuall agagement of faith in a good conscience, for savng the baptized through all Future extremities; althese translations according truth, correspond-

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ing <

Obj. About the Answer of a good Conscience

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ing as the substantial Antitype of what was shadowed by that outward preservation of Noah and his Children, it inferreth excellent comfort in our baptismall covenant for Infants, In believing and glorifying God for his longanimity; would yee rob him of his glory which the wisdom of the Holy Ghost would have betokened unto posterity by the token of his everlasting covenant in the Rainbow? in remembrance whereof he might be said for his Israelites safety to baptize them in the cloud and in the Sea, when the token of his presence by covenant of mercy led them through the red Sea into the wilderness, as they went through the waters of fordas into the land of Promise, so when they were to re turn into the land of promise at their deliverance from Babylonian captivity the Prophet Ezekiel cav. 1. saw the appearance of a Rainbow again at Chbar the river running into Euphrates, whose wates were divided for safe passage of cyrus their delverer, by drying the water, as Isaiah had prophecied chap. 44. 27, 28. and chap. 54.8. I will have merc upon thee faith the Lord thy Redeemer, for this the ma ters of Noah to me. Luke chap, 17. As it was in th days of Noah so shall it be in the days of the Son of Man. Noah in his Artificiall Whale above water, Jonh

Noah in his Artificiall Whale above water, Jona in his living Ark under water, figured Christ in the deep of Death for our sins, yet arising again for or Justification: in truth whereof the Spirit of prophecy might say, the Lord our God will cast all thir Sins into the depths of the Sea, Micah 7. Enough o Baptize us all from our sins: all repenting after ample of Ninivehothey and their children, of whih

see our chapter 13.

CHAP.

CHAP. XV.

Object. Numb. 1. About practice. Accomodat. practice supposed upon proof of right by the commission in generall, and in special by twelve testimonies in the new alleged out of the old. Numb. 2. The practice affirmed in generall: no express for restraint in right or practice: silence no disproof. Numb. 3. More for proof of practice in the Apostles time by observations out of antiquity.

NUMBER I.

Obj.

Flit had been prophecied of Christs time, it would have been practised in Christs time. But what warrant of the written word for that?

Accomod. Enough many ways already noted here.

to baptize all Nations as the fign of their subjection to the Kingdom of Christ, Infants being such parts of the Nations as have right unto the King-

dom

Chap. 15. Num. 4. dom of Christ by Christ his warrant, and by Christ his interpretation, all being required before their entrance into his Kingdom to be born of water and of the Spirit, which is the New birth of the baptized.

2. More special commission about Infants opened, by comparing the testimonies of holy Prophecies alleged out of the old, and applyed to baptism in the new Testament, as above discoursed; for In-

stance:

1. Comparing Esaias cap. 8. 4. 16. 18. alleged Heb. 2.13. Infants were fealed Disciples as signes to shew that Christ would fanctify such in his Church to be his brethren (in the name of the Father called on them at baptism.)

2. Rom. cap. 15. 12. alleging Esaias cap. 11. where Infants meet at the sign or ensign of Christ with Vipers to be changed as the sign of baptism, applied

Matth. 3.

3. John Baptist for warrant of his baptism, to prepare a people for the Lord, alleging Esaias cap. 40. where the Lord specially designeth Infants among the people whom he will have, according to that Prophecy.

4. Christ compareth his death three dayes to the three dayes-journey of Jonah through the Sea to preach the word which conteined mercy to Infants, And saith, there shall none other signe be given, none

contrary to fuch mercy.

5. Israel a watered Garden, Isaiah 58.11. A Garden having young Plants as well as old, applied to the Church at Baptism, when they are Complanted, Rom. 6. as Willows by the water course, and as budds

on which the blessing is by promise and the Spirit Chap. 15. on the Seed, Isaiah 44.3, 4.

6. The acceptable year of Jubilee (when Inheheritance acrueth to Parents and their children, Levit. 25. 41. Esaiss 61.) fulfilled by Christ, as He alleged. Luke 4. upon his return from baptizing.

7. When he minded also the Spirit of his Forerunner in Elias a Reliever of the young as well as

old with oil in figure of Grace.

8. The first fruits sanctifying the elder in profession and Prayer for young children, Dent. 26. applied by James cap. 1.18. 27. cap. 5.16, 17. to make pure by the washing of Regeneration, Tit. 3.5. John 3.5.

5. 13.

9. The Holy flock of Jacob distinguished by marks through the Dams conception by reason of the party-coloured Rods in water; Figurative of Holy distinction betwixt Infants marked unto the Gospell-grace according to the Parents conception in prayers of Christian faith at baptism, and others unbaptized: unclaimed by Christ in his Righteousness, Matth. 3. 15. after his Forefather Jacob's example of Righteousness in claiming only the marked, Gen. 30. 23.

10. The Saviour of Israel as a Shepheard saving young and old; His Arm shall rule for Him (such as understand not yet his Word) with his Armes He will gather the Lambs, and carries them in his bosom, Isaiah 40. 10, 11. the baptism of John there being Prophetically premised applied to Christ the good Shepheard. Lambs preceding the care of Sheep, John cap. 21. Understand our Heavenly Shepheards love for your own pasturing, washing,

Out of the Old for Childrens right.

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and marking your Lambs; as your tender hearted Mothers by what you do to your broods, your henns to chicken: So Christ to your children and His.

11. Christ granting to little children a right in the Kingdom of God, into which he faith that none can enter, except He be born of water, and of the spirit, thereupon by the Spirit blowing as the wind, is called to mind that promise of his Prophet Ezekiel cap. 36. 25, 26. I will sprinkle water upon you, and you shall be clean from all the filthiness: And a new Spirit will I put into you, and chap. 37. A spirit of life to revive the Children of Israel from the four winds on the Quarters of the earth, blowing in events of Gods wrath against the obstinate, but in mercy to thereturning children of Israel, and to their childrens children for ever. Rev. 7. At the presentation of the four winds, hurt is restrained untill the children of Israel were marked in their foreheads, all that were to bespared: Childrens children were to be spared, while they were little; Therefore they were to be marked into that preservation to wit in the sprink ling of water by covenant in the Spirit.

So come from the four winds, O Spirit, and blow upon the dead in fin that they may be raifed small and great, unto the new life of grace. Ezek. 37.9.14.

25. Rev. 20.12. Amen. 11. 11. 11. 11.

to them and their children, Att 2. alleging the fecond of foel, where God calleth for Infants, at the promife-making to pour his Spirit on all flesh: Infants are concluded in that promife performing at baptism. Besides these manifold special reasons for

Namb. 2.

practifing.

practifing childrens baptism, That practice was ex- Chap. 15. pressed in generall, Mark chap. 1. 46. the land of Numb. 3. Judaa went out, and they of Jerusalem were all baptized of him, confessing their sins, (to wit Generall)

the law then requiring and accepting confession in

generall, Lev. 16. verse 21.

4. The Evangelist supposed that the world would not contein the books, if all should be written that Jesus did: Silence of holy writ therefore is not sufficient proof that there was no practice of particular Infants baptized, if that be silence which noteth the women and children among the thoufands that came to Christ and had benefit in what he commanded, Matth. 15. 35. Exéreurs, the verb indefinite, from whence is derived xéreusua, (-1 Thess. 4.16.) the word of command wherein the Lord will raise the dead, small and great (Revel. 20.12.) unto which baptism prepareth & interesseth (Rom. 6. 5.) by vertue of Christ his command, with promise of his presence in baptizing to that end, as the master of a ship for preservation of small and great from perishing by waters.

5. Resting in that excellent rule of Theology, That there is no fure hold for Christian people but the light of Gods word, all men being liable to deceive or be deceived, by report of errour or uncertainty 3 yet Students in the Monuments of Antiquity find many weighty graines for inclination of their Prudentiall Scales toward the reteining of Infant-Baptismas in accord with the practice of the Apostles time, among the witnesses whereof is that con- Num. 3. fessed antient book in the name of Denis the Areopagite, whose praise is in the holy Scripture, a learn-

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ed man, called to be a Christian by report of Miraclein fact, or probable observation of that Eclipse of the Sun at noon-tide on the day of Christ his passion about the Paschall full Moon.

6. The practise of Apostles is implied so far, as their successors praise Infant baptism to be an Apostolique Tradition: The first traditors or writers whereof being so antient, that their own immediat Fathers might have conversed with John the longest surviving Apostle.

7. Antients both of Greek and Latin Church fo accepting the report of Infant-baptism from the Primitive age, their agreement is a stronger induce-

ment of our credulity:

8. The first Synod of Reverend Antients affembling in Gouncill to consider thereof approved

Baptism of Infants in the time of Cyprian.

9. Jerome, who lived in the holy Land time sufficient for Inquisition, a diligent Inquisitor of Apostolique practices there, approved infant-Baptism as derived from their times.

Augustin agreeing with Jerome therein, are of much esteem for their excellent Administration in the Church of Christ. Hence same of Baptism was more lowdly trumpeted, and the Church of Christ.

enlarged mightily thereby.

of Child-Baptizing, also to purge the Church from the wicked Pelagian herefy: for as much as the malady being perceived, to wit childrens guiltiness of Adams Originall Sin, Faithfull Christians held it their Paternall duty for abundant caution of safety to speed the remedy by baptizing children: Note

in:

in those Antients how they grounded their practice Chap. 16. in the holy Scriptures though some differed out of error, doubting of remission if they sinned after

baptism.

11. It was the fate of the Roman Imperiousness to be so long unbaptized until they were ready to be prevented by death: whereas their baptism should have sealed them from the temptations of Satan that affected to usurp them as his Instruments, in advances of the fatall accursed Roman Mystery: Think what it is to have the Seal of Christ, for restraint of Satan, (Rev. 20.3.) by vow renouncing his works and snares, for munition of the baptized.

tinued throughout all ages by succession, Christian prayer had joyes in comfortable hope of blessing by so succeeding from the Apostles, with whom our Saviour promised to be (Matth. 28.) unto the end of the world, to wit in the successors of the Apostles Ministery, baptizing and teaching as Christ commanded for all Nations and all times unto the worlds ends.

CHAP. XVI

Numb. 1. Object. About the restraint of commission (Matth. 28.) to the Apostles: Answer, it extendet to their Successors in the Ministery, by lawfull Craination.

174 Chap. 16. Numb. 1.

Ordination, proved by ten notes, Num. 2. How that Succession was uninterrupted, and Christ his promise performed, in event before the reformation, and in speciall our English ordinary Ministery was preserved from the objected Apostacy, or depth of Antichristianity, by the blessed providence of God to his Glory. Numb. 3. Why the new Dippers Ministery not warrantable, and their form of Baptism unsufficient to shut out Satan, or bind him up, or to Seal Christians from his power: after they have let loose that Hellish Enemy, by renouncing their former Baptismal vom to for ake the Devill Shis works.

Obj. Hrist promised to be present with his Apostles; in whose age many great things were to be done, for destruction of the Temple, desolation of Jerusa-

the Judiciall Government there; In Sense whereof,

the Apostles admonished the Jews as then in the chap. 16. last times, yea, that it was the last hour, and that Numb. 1. the ends of World were come upon them.

The name of the World may be restrained unto the then present Age or Seculum, a signification not

unusuall of diwros, the word there.

Answ. The words in Greek are all dayes, misas huleges The conference to the finishing , confummation, or accomplishment of all which Christ commanded to be taught, believed, and to be done in all Nations, as his Disciples by teachers and learners in Event, as Conclusions, Effects, and Inferences from his all Power in Heaven and Earth; All'is given to me , Go ye therefore ; Lo I am with you all daies to the end for perfective finishment of the World through effectuall presence of my Power in Spirit and truth. Amen. and truth the presence of my Power in

Our Saviour had foretold his departure, and was professedly departing even then from his Apostless Therefore his promise was not for the continuance of his bodily presence with them, nor of their bodily presence to the end here inten-" . EFON. 13.

ded.

The woes threatned for their times, he calleth, the begining of Sorrows, implying for the Future longlasting calamities, banishment of the Jewsbut of their Land, oppression in other Countries, and disfipation to the four winds, and yet the Generation or Kindred of the Iews not utterly to pass in endless misery, but to be delivered and called from the four winds in the end, when the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled, by the free grace of God enlivening them from the death of fin and unbelief, to a lively

The Commission, Matth. 28. continual.

· 176 Chap. 16. Num. I.

lively Faith in Christ through the Seed of his holy Word fructifying to a plentifull harvest, which Christ himself Lord of the harvest calleth the end of the World, Math. 13. 39. Courtines Te a' sarbs, the very same word in the same sense used, as in this promise of his presence with them to the end; in the succession of their ministerial Authority by Christs his assistance promised to them, and in them, to their lawfull Successors, rather than to their personall Operation onely, which continued not unto that end of the Great harvest, the full Ingathering of Jews and Gentiles in Christ, to the Glory of his Spirit by the Ministry of Glory dispensing the Gospell of Glory in the Face of Jesus Christ, untill Christ be all in all; Agratious presence of his holy Spirit assisting, ordering and blessedly sanctifying all after his will in Piety, Charity and unity to his Glory before his advent to Judgmentsin awe whereof the Apostle so beseeched the The Salonians, 2. epist. chap. 2. About or by the comming of our Lord Jesus, and by our gathering together unto him, imowayayis. not to be shaken in mind, or be troubled, as that the day of Christis at hand, for before that day, the Man of fin was to be revealed, two wayes, One in vision discovering the time, place, and manner of his arifing; the other in operation, according as the vision forewarned; books are written of both.

Onely take here a little gleaning, if to the purpose. Before that Vintage and Harvest of Jews and Gentiles gathered under the victorious Rider on the white horse, by name the Word of God, Rev. 19. A voice of accusation was heard against the

feven-

feven-hilled city, for that in her was found the Chap. 16. blood of Saints and of all that were flain upon the Num. 16 earth, amongst whom there were of the Apostles: Christ forewarning Peter by what death, he should glorify God, and secured not John from death as it was mis-reported, but said, what if I will that he tarry till I come?

Holy writ praiseth a threefold comming of

Christ.

1. In appearance of vision, as revealed to John.

2. In efficiency of the holy Spirit at fanctification of Jewes and Gentiles in the day of their full conversion to the Kingdom of Christ on Earth.

3. At his coming from heaven in great glory, to which Ministers serve, and are preserved in order

of Succession from the Apostles.

God in mercy give us amongst his faithfull servants humble eyes of sincerity to see what he holdeshout by Apocalypticall presence for warrant and affistance of Ministeriall duties in such order of succession until the finishing of his Church by his comming the latter two ways, in accomplishment of his Prophecies for the fulness of his Church and his glorious day of Judgment. The Angels of Christ, or visionall appearance of Christ, in his office of Trust as administring the Revelation, holdeth out many wayes the manner and praise of succession in the Servitours about the Throne of Christ, revealing in the fourth Chapter to John in the Spirit what must be hereafter, set, opertet, it ought to be.

1. By the vision of 24. Elders attending about the Throne, throughout the Revelation, in efficacious accomplishment of Spirit, verifying the Type

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178 Chap. 16. Num. 1. The Commission, Matth. 28. continual of successive Ministers elect for Gods service, 1 Chro.

2. By vision of the Ministerial attendants on four sides of the Throne, in reference to the successive Ministery on the four sides of the Mercy-Seat on the Ark of Covenant, in the book of Numbers

chap. 3.

3. By vision of seven lamps burning before the Throne, in Spirituality fulfilling what was typed by the seven lamps ordained by God to bekept burning through the successive Administration of Ministers in the Temple, by sacred intention of their continuall prayers, with eyes toward God, in hope of his mercy, that his eyes may continually behold his people in all their necessities night and day; therefore mystically called seven Eyes, and seven Spirits, as breathing the peoples prayers unto God; and Gods word of promises to help the people. For which officious Adspiration the seven Spirits are joyned to the seven Pastors by the Revelators right hand which he laid upon John, so joyning them together in Spirituall Mysterie, that all which have eares to hear (may) what the Spirit faith unto the feven Churches by their seven Pastours in Spirit; having not onely their severall Epistles, but also the whole Revelation of Mysteries unto the end thereof from the Apostle John in Spirit; as ordered by Christ mysticall the Revelator, at the beginning, and at theend of the Revelation attested also by Christ, as having elected those seven Pastours to be Patterns of spirituall ministery to the end: Not as if they were perfect without fault, but as that which Christ reveleth to them, and about them, was to direct.

direct the whole succession of Ministery to the end Chap. 16. for consummation of the Church, as a mysticall Numb. I. heaven by Christ his gracious presence, which therefore holdeth out those seven Pastors, as seven Stars, in performance of what shined out by the Spirit of Prophecyes for the time of the new Covenant, under which Ieremiah chap. 31. 34, 35. They shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, know the Lord [in so saying alone every one shall not efficiently teach another but, as they need, they shall be taught of God himself (in his teaching by his holy Spirit and his Word, in his Ordinances of Ministery) Thus saith the Lord which giveth the Sun for a light by day, the Ordinancea of the Moon and of the Stars for a light by night— chap. 33. 20, 21. Thus saith the Lord, If you can break my Covenant of the day, and my Covenant of the night, that there should not be day and night in their season - may also my Covenant be broken with my Ministers.

4. By the name of Jezebel again Revel. 20. calling to mind her superstition and presumption in patronage of Ministers that were not ordained according to the Lawes of the Lord then for right of succession of the Ministery: the presumptuous breakers whereof through intrusion unblessed erring notoriously were dreadfully blamed by Elias, and Elias (bid by the Lord) annointed Elisha to succeed in his room, and imposed his mantle on him, suitable to his profession, & for performance thereof procured of his Spirit to be upon that his succession a double portion as hereditable, and as Elias was called Father, Father, by Elisha, Elisha was cal-

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led

Ch. p. 16. Num. I.

led Father Father in Ifrael, having at his command Sons of the Prophets, Eye-witnesses of Proof enough to testify that succession of Elias his Spirit to rest on Elisha, who diverted them from dependance on respects to the deceased in body which they found unprofitable, that they rather attend to the search of Prophetique writing, as they lived in Colleges, to prepare for succession, as of Children after Fathers, in Prophetique learnings to administer aright the Word of the Lord unto his people, as in the still and small voyce regarding the small as his for greater manifestation of his glory, choosing to praise this spirit of Elias as convenient for his forerunner John Baptist and his followers by succession in the Ministery, to baptize in his holy name, without change of such novelties as are affected by that old ghostly enemy joyned with Jezebel, in that forewarning to all which have eares to hear what the Spirit saith unto the Churches, Rev. 2. 24, 25. Unto you, I say, and unto the rest in Thiatyra, as many as have not known the depths of Satan as they fpeak, I will put upon you none other burden, but that which you have already keep.

5. By the earthquake, Revel. 11.19. after the Oath, chap, 10. for finishing the Mysterie of God, as declared by the Prophets, the Prophet Zachary, 14.
5. Prophetically warning, specially to fly like as they fled in the days of King Uzziah, which Earthquake Josephus affirmeth to have been, when the Lord smote King Uzziah with leprosie, for presuming to do part of the Priests Office in burning In-

cense.

^{6.} By the waters iffuing out of Jerusalem there,

Lach. 14. Rev. 22. from the Throne of the Lamb Chap. 16. flaine, waters from under the threshold of the Tem-Numb. 1. ple, Ezek. 47. as from the services of the ordinary

Ministers in figure.

7. By vision of the Sanduary, where to fandify the fucceffion of Ministers ordained, and ordaining others by a spirituall fatherhood, for commendation whereof in Spirit and Truth correspondent unto the Leviticall succession, the wisdom of Prophecy by what had been in the old, aptly foreshewed what 15, 16, 23, 24. The sonns of Zadock that kept the charge of my sanctuary (when the Children of Ifrael went astray) they shall enter into my Sanctuary, and they shall come never to my Table to Minister unto me, and they shall keep my charge, and they shall teach my people to discern between the holy and prophane, and in Controversie they shall stand in judgment, and they shall judg it according to my judgments: And they shall keep my Lawes and Statutes in all mine Assemblies, and they shall hallow my Sabbaths. Behold the Ministers of Christs Church in the looking glaffe of this figurative Orderly fuccession from Zadock, fourteen generations after Zadock (Matth. 1.)Zadock having received that notable holy charge to take care that none should intrude Uzza-like to herve about the Ark. God mind us herein to fear the like, considering the Sanctuary open, and the

182 The Commission, Math. 28. the continuall

Chap. 16. Ark, and lightnings, and voices, and thundrings in Numb. 1. the Temple of heaven, heaven upon earth: The Church of Christ in great and terrible tempests (God help us.) Revel. 11. 19. Summarie contents) but in event, Revel. 15. 8. The Temple was not opened for entrance untill the finishing of the seven Plagues out of the seven vialls: After the last was powred out, a voyce out of the Temple from the Throne said [It is done,] It is done: what was 8 threatned about the plagues of spirituall Ægypt, and finnes of the wilderness intruding into the Ministeriall duties upon mistake of peoples holiness, And about Babylon after the figure of the old to whom the Ministers of Israel in their office successively 9 passed toward reparation of the Temple, figurative of Reformation: And another voyce from him upon the Throne said, It is done, I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, in teachings of the Church, And behold I come quickly, and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be: And the Spirit and the Bride Say, Come. Behold even untill Christ his coming in Judgment his Ordinance 10 in the Church as his Bride continueth, and that by such Ministers as Christ used at the beginning. It appeareth thus they were siemore, ministers, imployed in that case of spirituall infliction upon him that wanted a wedding garment, Matth. 22.13. After others were judged unworthy for their recusancy when formerly called xonanuirou, the Jewes: But after many generations the RENAMILIERS, they that had been called, to wit of the same nation, came with their addition Annalia, and again Avine, to the full

Communion with Christian Gentiles at the wed-

ding

ding supper of the Lamb, Rev. 19. his wife being the Chap. 16. Church of the Jewes and Gentiles in Covenant of Numb. 1.

Love and Mercy, Rom. 9. 24, 25. Hosea chap. 1. 10. chap. 2. 15, 18, 19, 20, 23. I will give her the valley of Achor for a door of hope, and she shall sing there as in the dayes of her youth, and as in the day when she came up out of the land of Ægypt (under benediction of an orderly successive prayerfull Ministery) And in that day I will make a Covenant, and I will betroth thee unto me for ever, in righteonsness, and in judgment, and in loving kindness, and in mercies; and I will sow her unto me in the Earth (a fœderall seed continued by fuccession of Teachers) by whom I will say to not my People, Thou my People; and they shall say, my God: Esaias 30. 20, 21, 29. Thy teachers shall not be moved any more; thine eyes shall see thy Teachers, and thine eares shall hear a word behind thee saying: This is the way, walk yee in it: yee shall have a Song as in the night when a holy folemnity is kept. Revel. 21. He that sate on the Throne said, It is done: And one of the feven (that powred out the last plagues) said I will shew thee the Bride the Lamb's wife, and he shewed methat Great City the holy Jerusalem descending out of heaven from God, and the wall of the City had twelve foundations. & in them the Names of the twelve Apostles of the Lamb: Hetherto Christ held his promise to his Apostles by his presence with their succeffors in building his Church on the foundations in their names, and the beloved A postle John hath countenanced the succession of their ministery from the beginning of the Revelation unto the end.

And to the like intent the blessed Apostle Peter

Cstrift his presence with

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NH 716. 2.

gave charge unto his fellow Presbyters, to be continued for overlight of the Flock, untill the visitation of Christ the Pastor and Bishop of our Souls, Arch-Pastor of Pastors, to continue for manifestation of Christs Glory to the day of Eternity, Peter also declared it in the Acts, of Apostolique duty, that an other ought (of, oportet) to be ordained to the Ministry from which Judas fell; And accordingly they ordained Mathias by their Suffrages implyed by the word though in prayer for Gods di-rection of them therein; And so Mathias succeeded in the Clergy, Lot, or Office of the same Ministery and Apostleship; the same therefore to continue by succession, after other Apostles as well as after Judas; his wickedness annulled not his Ministery, whose wickedness therefore shall? (John chap. 17.) Christ calleth Judas the Son of Perdi ion, and (2 Thef. 2.] Antichrist being called the Son of Perdit on, to signific likeness betwixt them; And therefore as the wickedness of Judas did not cut off the Ministery, nei-. ther is Antichrist likely to cut off, but rather to deprave it, and cut off himself and his finall admirers from the benefit of Salvation by it; Nor is Christ likely to cut off his own Ordinance of the Ministery, but to purge the flower of his Church, and reform his house rather than burn its like the vulgar translation of the Papists Latin bible, mistaking evertit for everrit, as if the woman instead of sweeping, had overthrown her house to find a groat to her greater loss.

It is urged very strongly, that the depth of the A-postacy, the mark of the beast, and mystery of iniquity droudes, lawlesness or Antichristianity were

with the successive Ministry.

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not finished untill the Councill of Trent.

Nothing of the Proposalls in matters of Faithbe-Num. 2.

ing defined at the great La erane Councill.

And the determinations of Articles for the Armemians at Rome, was Aulicall not Conciliar, agreed on three months after dissolution of the Florentine Councill, or rather Anti-Synodall, as in schisin against the Councill at Easil assembled and confirmed wonderfully by Pope Eugenius against himself, beside other after approbations of the Ecclesiasticall, impostumating by degrees to the fatall period, after which, they that will be faved must depart out of the Mysticall as out of the Figurative Old Balylon, at Gods call in his appointed seasons of righteoulnels and of mercy, to be viewed at large in books rather than in such an occasionall Chapter, yet in hope without blame of digression to ease the minds of some young neighbours in fear of this horrible scandall about the Mass and Idolatry through the new unquoth name of Transubstantiation, unheard above a thousand years in publique devotions of the Church, those antient Fathers expouning their own senses in conformity to the truth of Christ his sacrifice on the Cross, by vertue of his Testament, bequeathing himself to death for us, by the ransom of his bloodshed, to deliver us from Gods wrath by fatisfaction of his justice in mercifull acceptance of Christ his suretiship in our case through the blood of the everlasting Covenant sealed in particular to our mouths, and eyes, and hands, as the word of promise entreth our ears, a word of grace to strengthen our hearts in belief and love of Christ, thus gratiously covenanting with B b

Chap. 16. Num. 2.

us, as that antient Father Cyril excellently professed; Nostra conjunctio (scilicet cum Christo) nec miscet personas nec unit substantias; sed affectus consociat, confæderat voluntates.

This sense of holy mystery being omitted by dark thoughts of Monks in their Cells, mistaking the magnificent words of Antients, a new errour was hatched in the name of Transubstantiation never in publique Conciliar Authority monstred before the Council of Trent.

Then at Trent also was approved the second of Nice for adoration of Images, which stood condemned in the Church about seven hundred yeares by the decrees of the Councill of Frankford condemning that second of Nice, and preferring the Generall Councill of constantinople, which in the year seven. hundred fifty and four, decreed against the worship of Images the first decree of Generall Councill. in matter of Controversie betwixt us and Rome: which infinuated then with other novelties also fatally, whereof God forewarned in the Revelation, notwithstanding the manifold heavy grievances of good-meaning forefathers, and Petitions for, and Conciliary promises of Reformations, abuses were established for Lawes, and errours of Opinion imposed for Articles of Faith, with peremptory profession of an Oath and bloody persecution, against contrary Protestants, by the Popes Bull, actuating thus in his now pretended fulness of Super-conciliar authority, limiting the year 1564. for obligation of all to begin obedience under the definitions of faith and other Decrees of that Trent Councill, affecting to be the last: After which they presumed, there thould. should need no more definition nor declaration of Chap. 16. Generall Councill for Nations to meet in, as rivers Numb. 2. in the Sea. The dead Sea whose waters are deadly, Revel. 16. After which no more Sea, Revel. 21. 1.

Bleffed be God who kept us from tasting thereof by the Articles of our faith published in the year 1562. Our Reformation beginning on Saint John. Baptist play, 1559. as in love of the Baptists Spirit for turning the disobedient to the wisdom of just primitive Fathers: to reform a Nation at once in their baptismally vowed profession of Christian obedience to faith in the covenant of new birth without any recufant; O faintly day of Christ-worshipping unity well according with the word and prayer of Christ, that they all may be one, John 17. 21, 1 Eliz. whose Sages in Parliament having examined the complaints of Objectors, after deeper advisement, in great wisdom and piety established our moderat humble ministery: with prayers and hope, studying how to bless the people of God with peace and faving truth, in lawfull obedience every where for finishing by the holy Ghost who began the succession of Ministery by that command [Let another take his office and charge.

Likewise the Apostles Barnabas and Paul ordained Ministers in every Church, Paul finally the Doctor of us Gentiles (and professed pattern of mercy for perpetuity with thanks unto Jesus Christ our Lord for putting him into ministery) 1 Tim. 1. 2 Tim. 1. gave unto Timothy this double charge: To stir up the gift which is in thee by putting on of my bands. And 2. chapter 2. Thou my son be strong in the grace that is in the Lord Jesus, and the things which thou hast heard of

Bb 2

me

Christ his presence

Chap. 16. Num. 2.

me by many witnesses the same commit thou to faithfuil

men who shall be able to teach others also.

Behold the praise, pattern, and ordinance of committing facred trust in succession of Ministery for finishing after intention of that good beginning, Eph. 4. Enaeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. One Lord, one faith, One baptism, but severall gifts for the perfecting of the Saints, for the work of the ministery, for the edifying of the body of Christ in mystery revealed to his Apostles, and Prophets, by the Spirit, that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs with the Jewes, and partakers of the same promise in Christ, by the Gospell dispensation of the grace of God, in the ministery of Glory to the Glory of God, the finishing end of the world, to the end of its enduring: Both conteined in this promile of Christs presence with his servants in their commanded ministery to the end of the world.

A mos, the word which objectors would restrain to the Apostles life-time alone, but the large sense is verified as by what is already noted in the Antecedents, so by cleer use of the word in holy writ.

The word ininw, (Ephef. 3. 21.) conteineth all Generations through which Paul wisheth Glory to God in the Church, and Titus chapter 2. the grace of God appearing that we should live sobely, righteously, and godly in this now world (nunc, now) hindreth not the large sense of the world, there to signific so long as those duties endure of living soberly, righteously, and godly, which are perpetuall duties while men live in mortality before Christ come to Judge all; and while men marry in this world, linke 20. 34. which is untill Christ come, Luke 17.

30. And while the sin against the Holy Ghost is not Chap. 16. to be forgotten, Marke 3. 29. and Matth. 12.32. Who-Numb. 2. foever speaketh against the holy Ghost it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, nor in the world to come: Both worlds are concerned in this promise of Christ his presence with his Ministers in his Church unto the end or consummation, or finishment of the world. By their Ministery finishing themselves and the souls of their charge in duties preparative, oblignative and apprehenlive to take hold of life everlasting in the world to come. Luke the 18. 30. Behold here diar, for the world to come, and diwner, adjectively for everlasting life, Heb. 9. 12. for everlasting redemption from evill, and the 27 hess. 2.16. everlasting consolation, according to the prayer and preaching of the Gospell, wheret y Ministers save themselves, and their hearers; will they restrain these everlastings also? Titus 1. 2. God who cannot lye promised before the world began: but hath in due time manifested his Word through preaching according to the Commandment of God our Savien. who will have his members, where he is, in happy mansions eternall in the heavens, John 13. 2. Cor. 5.1. O enemy-spirit, thou with such unblest Cacocriticism in vain attemptest to restrain such eternity, and cut off humble and faithfull ministers, and their Flock, from the bodily presence of Christin such locall glory, by conformity to his glorious body, through the power of his, and our fellowship of corefurrection, as if he were not truth who told of Treasures where the Thief cannot Digg through, nor Steal, and of baggs that wax not old, a Crown of Glory that fadeth not away for faithfull Pastours at the appearing;

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displaceth

pearing of Christ their chief, 1 Pet. 5. 4. Inheritance uncorruptible in the heavens from whence thy subtle malignity was cast down with thy sectaries evill Angells examples of reprobate men: The God of peace will tread down Satan under the feet of Christ, in Christians, Rom. 16. 20. Christ who saith, He that heareth you heareth me, And he that rejecteth you rejecteth, abela difpleafeth me. When the Disciples returned with joy faying; Lordeven Devill: are subject unto us through thy name; He said unto them, Behold, I give unto you power to tread on Serpents, and over all the power of the enemy, not as under the then head alone, but over all the power of the Seven-headed Dragon unto the end in the last times also: Behold, I that have all power Esolar, authority, Luke 10. (What re shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven) and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth, shall be loosed in heaven. So powerfully present is Christ in Administration of his Ordinances, his Ministers in his Name by his word and by his Spirit in prayer bleffedly and bleffingly doe thut out of themselves, and out of all obedient members of Christ, thee with thy malignant Sectaries, and feal thee out by fetting on the feal of Christ in everlasting Covenant of love, to fuch as by grace will believe and obey the Commandements of Christ in covenanted seasons, and ministerially by conduct of that Angell of glory, with the word of grace shut up the Dragon that old Serpent the Devill Satan into the bottomless pit, though loofe too long already for want of fuch shutting and binding in the great chain: God help us now by the word of Truth to bind his enmity fast in everlasting chaines in the fire of hell that never shall

be quenched, as Gessow, the fire goeth not out, & session chap. 16. the fire goeth not out; the fire goeth not out, the Numb. 2. worm dieth not, & TANTE, endeth not, is not finished there; here it may by doing what Christ commanded his Ministers to teach in assured belief of his promised affistance unto the finishing of the world: But if neglected in this world never to be finished in the next world where they burn with the Devill and his Angells in chaines everlasting aidibie, another word for the Devills everlasting torment in hell to stop the mouthes of his Critick Succlelists, lest by subtilists mistake of the same word which they urge to end Christs ordinated Ministery, they let loose their licentious curiofity, to think that the Devills torment shall be ended. And lest by the like Criticall abuse of this die, the Devill also blaspheme Christ his eternity who is God bleffed for ever is allovas. Rom. 9. 5. his going forth from everlasting, Michah 5. 2. by whom God made the worlds diaras; and the Decrees of Predestination and Election, before the foundation of the world, Eph. 1. 4, 5. Before the worlds began, 2 Tim. 1.9. King of the worlds, 1 Tim. 1.17. whose Kingdom hath no end : and his Priesthood no end Aunvexes, perpetuall, A Priest without end of life, inalanire, unsoluble, Heb. 7.3.16. A Priest for ever after the Order of Melchisedeck, cap. 5. Christ the same yesterday and to day and for ever, Hebr. 13.8. mind. the strength of this reason for establishment of respect unto the Ministers of the word in the verse next before towards perfecting the Saints unto Christ his glory through the blood of the everlasting covenant after death, as in the latter part of that Chapter, to warrant the Ministery with the solemn charge,

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charge, verse 17. Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit your selves, for they watch for your soules as they that must give account, that they may doe it with joy and not with greef, for that is unproptable for thee. anomenes, a word decompounded of three, 1 not. 2 paying. 3 fine, as in common use, the name of fine fignifieth what is done and payd, for an end of trouble in purchases (especials for acquittance from the supreme power) amongst men, so for acquitting our claim for eternall Inheritance, and ending Gods wrath, and discharging us from Gods righteous judgments, a Fine is requisite, without which the worm finisheth not, finisheth not, finisheth not, and the fire goeth not out, goeth not out, goeth not out, as our Saviour threatneth, Marke 9. for which the Ministers of grace grieve at the reprobate unsubordinate, as without that fine requisite for their Rulers to give accompt with joy to him, that for finishing the world by vertue of his All-power in heaven and earth, sent to baptise all Nations, In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, as he commanded.

To baptize as He commanded; is to baptize in his name. By faith in his name believing his promised Assistance through efficacious power of his gratious presence in such baptism as he commanded, according to this his command in the Gospell is to be understood the narration in the Acts, of the Apostles, who in Historicall brevity might be truly said to baptize in the name of Jesus, when they baptized at the command of Jesus, In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Ghosts That Glory of holy Trinity youch said to sanctifie

Johns

New Dippers Ministry not warrantable,

J.bas Baptism, though with severall presentations Chap. 16. of their Excellencies, the better to discover the dif- Num. 3. ference betwixt the outward and inward baptism

then ordained to be ordinary with admiration of fuch extraordinary divine Authority.

Mistake not those in the 19th of the Alls, to have been baptized again then; whereas they were but Numb. 3. instructed to rest in the baptism which they had before. There is not any fignification of any after baptizing, at that time when Paul there spake, but of that in the former time, when they were at first baptized; In the Aorist Passive as the Interrogation was put in the second plurall, isami sure verse 3. in the same tense resolution sufficiently referreth unto that their baptizing in the third person plurall, seamson, they were at first baptized with the baptism of Repentance to believe in Jesus Christ who was sanctified at baptism by the glory of the holy Trinity to fanctifie the baptism of others in their holy name, by their unitive holy grace of divine Authority to glorifie the blessed and ever blessing Trinity now omitted in their new dipps, and consequently disbelieved by too many through Satans extremly malignant subtilty to prevail as he did over those presumers in the name of Jesus without lawful mission from the Apostles, Als 19. The evill Spirit answered and said, Jesus 1 know, and Paul 1 know, but who are yee? And the man in whom the evill Spirit was, overcame them that unwarrantably took upon them to deal in the name of the Lord Jesus; and the dippers appear unwarrantable herein, as against the command of Christ, and against the truth of Christ his promise; But let G c hope

And their form of babtism unsufficient.

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hope and obedience of continuall prayers hold in our Ministery faithfully to serve the Glory of the eternall Trinity, that Infants being baptized in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the holy Ghost, others may deal with them as the Children: of God, the members of Christ, and Temples of the holy Ghost, and they may so deal with others in all duties; in holy conversation, and in themselves, which God grant to the comfort of his People in accomplishment of his Prophecies and Promises to his dear Church, shooting up (Spirituall Ejaculations of love) her prayers of faith in the Covenant, betokened by the Rainbow for Common Salvation of Small and Great through the continual Intercession of his beloved Son Jesus, the Amen, our Amen, Amen. W. Mass. ... with the control of the . Uting the percent to believe an 3 co

Town by build attaining or you durk

Numb. 1. Answer to that other Objection about ingrafting dry sticks, to whom Christ giveth life as in figure, dead man enlivened by the dry hones of Elisha. Numb. 2. Answer to that about wrong to the elect by offer of grace to the reprobate, wheras here is ascribed all

all the glory of efficacy to God in bis Chap. 17. grace and the blame of deficiency to men Numb. 1. in all. Numb. 3: Object. And answer, about grace of child-baptism, bow consistent with perseverancy since many baptized are unfaved.

NUMBER I.

Ther Objections have been sufficiently cleared in books of the morelearned, yet, lest they may feem here to be declined, for their urgencies, a syllable or two of them.

Objest. Infant-baptism ingraffeth dry sticks, and incorporateth dead members into Christ.

Accom. Elisha by the touch of his dead bones raifed up a dead Man, 2. Kings 13. In figure of Christ; who cured the withered hand, the blind eyes, the deaf ears, and raised up the dead body: wonder not at our hope of Resurrection in Spirit to a new birth at baptism by the merits of Christ dying for us all his Enemies to redeem us from death in our fins.

Object. The Doctrine of Child-baptism profaneth Numb. 2. this privilege of Elect Saints, as if it were common to the reprobate; Out of mistake, as if redemption of all Particulars were meant in the words of holy Scripture, which intends but all Generalls verified Cc 2

Object. Wrong to the Elect, by

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in that some of all sorts are accepted, as Elect to be sanctified and saved through the redemption of Christ.

Accom. God at his Election of some, effectually to be fanctified and saved, by the sweet providence of goodness, willed Christ his mediation to be sufficient in merits and Ordinances of Grace, though not efficient for the sanctification and salvation of all particulars, ascribing all the glory of efficacy to God in his grace, and the blame of deficiency to men.

The narrow conceipt restraining words of story to Generalls in your sense, hath not the like warrant of boldness to restrain the sacred words of Gods glory, promised to be the fulness of the Earth; his glory of mercy shining over all his works in offer of mercies to man-kind (through sin) all his enemies; Glory of mercy to them whom he elected and faved effectually, though they had not deserved any mercy: Glory to the not-elected, whom he called, invited and threatned, that in hope and fear they might amend and be faved; Glory of his justice in reprobating them that obstinately resuled such mercies offered to them and theirs, in his offer of holy covenant to be a God unto them and to their Children, that the bleffing of Abraham might be to all Nations and to all Families in the bleffed feed of Abraham, Jesus that dyed to save the Worldas himself in truth proclamed, John 3. 12. God sent his Son into the Wirld, not to condemn the World, but that the world through him might be faved; as Jude the Apostle gave all diligence to write of the common Salvation, all diligence is required for manifestation of Gods glory, bleffing, fanctifying, and justifying, that common in his holy name and holy cobenant 2. That

of mery

2. That narrow sense in Affirmative signes of Chap. 17. Universality, restraining to some particulars of all Numb. 2. sorts (but exclusive of others) is unconsistent with notes of Negative Universality, denying any such exclusive, and holy scripture denieth any such in this case, 2. Pet. 3.9. The Lord is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. This universall Affirmation (with an universall Negation of any lest out) is a compleat Universality for the savableness of all by the will of God.

3. They that were dead in fin, are all redeemed by Christ; But all were dead in fin, 2. Cor. 5. 14. If one died for all, then were all dead, in a manner deferving to dye, doomed to death, yet with an Ambassage of mercy by the word of Reconciliation intrusted to the Ministery, beseeching all to be reconciled that were at enmity through sin; God having made Christ to be sin for them as a sacrifice for sin at large: The Lamb of God taking on him the sinns of the World.

4. This is a faithfull faying, worthy of all acceptation in faith, and hope in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, chiefly of believers, maxime fidelium, the Saviour of the faithfull in the highest.

The Superlative supposeth toward others a Positive and Comparative degree of mercy to gloriste God as Saviour of all, though of the faithfull in a superabundance of excellence, 1. Tim. 4.10.

5. False teachers bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bringupon themselves swift damnation, 2 Pet. 2. 1. Seeing they crucifie to themselves the Son of God asresh, Heb. 6.5.

Ec 3 6. Some

Object. Wrong to the Elect, by

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6. Some works never done, might have possibly been done, abstractedly considered in the freedom of enabled Agents, who chose not to do them when they were able. And some by doing escaped the punishment, unto which they possibly had been liable if they had not done. The Ninevites had been destroyed if they had not repented; as they of Jeru-Salem did not repent when Christ would; and they of Tyre and Sidon would have repented if they had seen what Bethsaida saw. Possibilities are very supposable in Application of means; May not Salvability be well conceived of other Out-casts, by the grounds of their pattern in our 4th Chapter, about Christ our great Prophet? who by his Angell (1) called Hager to teturn unto Sarah, Mother of the faithfull in her bleffed Family; (2) Promising a Son by name Ismaels (3) Having in the end additition of praise in Gods holy name; (4) To Father Abrabams prayer that Ishmael may live before thee, (5) Gods answer for Ishmael, I have heard thee, behold I will bless him; (6) Gods Covenant with Abraham and his Seed to be their Gods Almighty conteining all good, Father of Spirts and giver of Spiritualls; (7) An everlasting Covenant with promise of an everlasting Possession; (8) Therefore Abraham and his issue male were to be circumcifed every one in token of that Covenant; The feal upon every male in Abrahams Family betokened their interest in that everlasting, so Covenanted by way of Inference as betwixt the Cause & the Effect; One inferring the other by right reason of Conjunction in Gods Govenant for the one, and therefore the other without exception of any. 9. Not Offer of grace to the Reprobate, Answ.

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9. Not without distinction betwixt the Land of Chap. 17. Promise as the figure, and eternall life in heaven Numb. 2. figured thereby; Both in the Covenant, though not both alike inherited by the Covenanters; but in distinct dispensations of Gods mercies to the greater praise of his divine providence, true, faithfull, and mercifull in all. First to Abraham, though he lived as a stranger there, expecting that better Possession Eternall in heaven to hisfull content; So that it seemeth little curtesse to bring him a 1000 years from his celestiall Inheritance conteining all that need to be desired for perfect enjoyments And leaving that other Possession of the figurative Inheritance to his feed, as one with him in hope of the like everlasting. (10) Though with a distinction also betwixt them of his seed; Moses appeared with Christ in glory, though having but prospected and not stept a foot in that Land of Promise; for the word of a flow or stammering tongue; what syllable miss-spoken by 1shmael? But laughing as bout him that had his name of laughter; And that not at full age for rejection of Inheritances by the Law, (11) much less by the Gosple of more mercy pattern'd in Sarah, Mother of the faitfull in believing the Covenant of God, all infinite for mercies above all his works; And that for Issmiel as her Son conceited in her mercifull heart to be bleffed heir in her Family, Sarah said, peradventure I shall be builded by her; In hebrew Phrase from (Banab) buildedy (Ben) fignifieth a Son, and fo sarab longed to have a Child by her Bond-maid Hagar. 13 mil The 17

How unsafe it was from the beginning for a wo-

Object. Wrong to the Elect, by

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man (though wife and holy) to have the wardship of her husbands faith in matters of Religion; Allthough out of rare indulgence for him to take another wife as after her death Law alloweth; And her imagination of facred melancholy by felf-deniall in barrenness as a dead Womb man yielded to her husband in hope of the promised seed to be Heir of the World. The Almighty who called Abraham to offer that promised seed for a Burnt-Offering, (notwithstanding the Law of Nature against killing) hindered the deed of flaying him, with acceptance of the Fathers obedience, and the Sons patience, in similitude of Christs true death, yet hindred him not (against the Law in state of Innocency for one wife to one) upon such imaginary death of sarai to take another, In his overstreed Patriarchall Agonie, by Gods permission ordered with Poenitentiall high Regreet; sarah being ungratefully despised, her Son mocked; Hagar and her Son cast out, they knew not whether in the Wilderness, to Abraham's great grief, unto God's greater Glory, blessing them all in his mercy through faith. Abraham and sarah having therein dealt with faith, though not by faith in All: with faith believing God's promise, but not by faith, in as much as they staid not for Gods performance in his season by his way, but overdared another way, as gracious fervants of God, erred in all ages, not as if they would abuse the grace of God, which they knew to abound in themselves, but upon presumption of such abundance unawares working after the wiles of the Tempter, by carnall devices, Thus with faith, though a weak faith of Abraham, and of Sarah, brought

to

brought they Ishmael within their faithfull family to Chap. 17. be circumcifed in token of partaking in God's Co-Numb. 2. venant.

12. With a distinction in the manner of partaking diversly for the diverse sorts of Seeds. One carnally presumed upon mistake of the promise: the other truly promised: Isaac the true seed by promis had two priviledges covenanted unto him: One to be the true Foresather of Christ for a blessing to all Nations: The other Priviledge to be right Inhe-

ritour of the promised holy Land.

From both which Ishmael the carnall seed was ejected by the sentence of Sarah, ratified with Abraham's consent by God's appointment; in respect whereof Gal. 4. Paul affirmeth it to be the Scripture which said: Cast out the Bond-woman and her Son; For the Son of the Bond-woman shall not be Heir with the Son of the Free-woman. Blessed be the Faherly providence of God, who made this to be scripture, that is, the written holy Word of God; whose goodness overruleth all according to his everlasting Covenant, to be God unto faithfull Abraham, and to his Seed: that will keep covenant with him in their different degrees: one Principall, another Accessory, both bleffed: upon Isaac Principall by right of Inheritance: Ishmael by right of brotherhood, to have benefit of access in seasons of duty by voluntary kind consent of Isaac. Christ the Son of God, hearing the cry of Ishmuel, by interpretation (God hath heard) by that very name prompting to faith, with warrant for believing, that God would hear and help: as he did in extremity, when Ishmael was about to perish with thirst; opening his mothers eyes

Chap. 17.

Feare not: and God was with the Lad: When he wandered thus in the wilderness, or wheresoever, until he brought him back: not in mocking, scandalizing, or persecuting, but in living brotherly.

What said gratious, angry, just sarah then? not a a word? Peace, Piety, Reverence. All sacred silence in the Grave. Abraham also died, in whom was the High Priesthood, by death reconciling offenders, and pacifying avengers of blood, Numb. 35. In figure of Christ, Isaac's blessed seed, by whose heavenly guidance and assistance of brotherly kindness, Isaac and Ishmael together in siliall duty buried their Father Abraham? Then, and not till then a true Freeholder in the promised Land, by Covenant assured, bless, taking possession of Inheritance in heaven. Ishmael also died amongst them: not excommunicate, nor (which is worse) excommunicating himself, as a Separatist, but as God in blessing had promised, Gen. 16. 12.—He shall dwell in the presence of all his Brethren. So Gen. chap. 25.18.—He dyed in presence of all his brethren.

Christ the best brother, making attonement; Jew and Gentill, bond & free, all one by the blood of the everlasting Governant at his death to slay enmity: yet is not the enmity dead: her mother Envy (that enchanting Witch) her blasphemy ceaseth not to bring (from whence it came) into the restless disorders, torments and woes of hell, slaming continually by the way, assaulting, endangering, as personally stage, and Ismael before: So mystical Isaac, and Ismael their Collective Issues in their two Governants, whether as distinct, or as oftentimes inter-

changeably ;

changeably mixed: Ishmaelits becoming Israelits Chap. 17. by faith in the Covenant of Isaac his blessed seed: Nuiv. 2.

And his grand-children Israelits becoming Islandelits in trusting onely to the Covenant of their outward works and Ceremonious priviledges of Moses his Laws.

Heavenly providence interweaving them for opportune exchange, or triall of their mutuall aides in his most mercifull wise judgments: untill at unawares for the common falvation one of the twelve Apostles fold Christ the blessed seed, as of the former twelve brethren, Sons of Ifrael, envy fold Joseph to the Ishmaelits iffuing from Hagar, and Madianits issuing from Keturah, Abraham's other wives; their children, in affociation, as merchants carrying Balm from Gilead: And therewith felling Tofeph into Egypt, Hagar's native Countrey; thus occasioning all Ifrael into that place of bondage; old Jacob himself, the beloved heir of Isaac, went: having sent thither balm of Gilead with prayerfull outcry for Mercy, to redeem his little Benjamin thence, but could not: untill himself came thither. Highest fatherly Providence ordering him and all his, to tast of that Egyptian Hagar's cup; And by her Son Ishmael's balin beyoud admiration fuddenly to heal that old fad Israel's heart, and all the wounds of his Sons; And by right application thereof how to heal Schisines, Herefies, Envies, in Prophetique sence prescribing that Balm of Gilead, with such fathers prayers and brotherly. Treaties of mercy bleffed by Jehovah the Lord God Almighty, who when he heard his Prophet wish, his eyes had been a fountain of teares to weep day and night for that every brother will sup-Dd 2 plant

The Children of Sarah and Hagar

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Chap. 17. plant, and every neighbour will walk with slanders, Numb. 2. thundered out that voice of Awe: Let not the wifeman glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches: But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I [am] the Lord which exerciseth loving kindness. This in conclusion directed to Agypt and Judah (who treated so dutifully for a Fathers life, in the freedom of his little brother, to a brother greatned in prosperity) likewise to Edom, Esau, the brother supplanted by Jacob: And to the children of Ammon and Moab, and all that are in the utmost corners, that dwell in the wilderness:not excluding the children of Ishmael, whose Plaint in the wilderness under a shrub the Lord heard, and out of a bush in fire said to Moses; Put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy Ground: As the holy Mount Horeb: Also stom the bramble bush, in Hebrew Senetycalled Sinai: In this Allegorie, that is a figurative speech of another sense than at first appeareth, Gal. chap. 4. This Agar is Mount Sinai in Arabia. Behold, Agar hath ground of holiness, or holy Land, also for sarah and her children come from Egyptian Agars captivity now to this holy Land of Agar. Now let envy cease betwixt the children of Sarah, and of Agar, thus conjoyned in holy mystery. to serve the Lord, as he commanded Moses at his first meffage of deliverance. Exod. 3. When thou hast brought forth the People out of Agypt, ye shall ferve God at this Mountain, called Holy Ground, for the presence and apparition of God's holiness there; as 2 Pet. 1. That other was called Holy Mount, where

Joyned to serve the Lord in Mount Sinai.

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the Glory of the Lord outshined. Chap. 17.

And they of Israel had there a promise to be a ho-Numb. 2.

ly Nation, Exod. 19. applyed 1 Pet. 2.9. to them that had not, but now had obtained mercy to be the People of God, expounded of Jewes and Gentils in Covenant, Rom. 9. 24, 25. out of Hosea 2.23.

A Covenant to them and their Little Children to be their God, and to circumcife their hearts unto his love: A Covenant of the Spirit of grace: the holy Ghost covenanting to write his Lawes in their hearts, and to forgive their fins. Heb. 10. Though but a Covenant of works, as written in Tables of Stone, and by the pride of Merit-Mongers, trusting to the righteousness of their own works, through fault of their unbelief not taking hold of Christ, but persecuting him unto death s for which Jerusalem it self then became Hagar, and the Children of Sarah were then bondslaves to fin, captived under the curse of the Law, as transgressors of the Law, untill yeilding themselves dead to the Law; and by grace of the new creature, finding the letter of the Law dead to them; they be married unto Christ a new? Husband in Covenant of Love, satisfying the Law for payment of her debts, and clothing her anew with the white Priest-like rob of atonement, for which shee shall be called in his name : The Lord our Righteousness: Jer. chap. 23. chap. 33. of whatsoever Nation. Col. 3. The Partition-wall being down at " the death of Christ, there is neither distinction of Jew and Gentill, Barbarian, Scythian, nor of bond and free, but Christ is all, and in all for his promise fake to faithfull Abraham; in prayer for Ishmael alfo; bleffing Ishmael into a Nation.

According

Chap. 17. Numb. 2.

According to the vote of his Father David's heart and harp Psal. 68.17, 18. The Lord among them in Sinai in the holy place. Thou hast ascended on high, thou hast led captivity captive: thou hast received gifts for men; Heb. in the man; Christ that ascended to the right hand of God, and by his dispensation for

men, yea, for his enemies. Ephef. 4.

Our Translatours offer it in little letters [as] in Sinai, Pful. 68. was it not according to the Covenant of Grace? when the Lord said in Sinai to Moses; Thou hast found grace in my sight, and to Moses his Petition [Shew me thy Glory] The Lord said; I will make all my Goodness pass before thee; teaching to be content in the knowledg of God as Good, and as it is good for us to know, (without overcurious presumption about his incomprehensible secrets) and Lwill proclaim the Name of the Lord beforethee (to wit that in hearing his gracious Name, thou shouldst believe his Word of Grace, and receive his gracious helps and gracious effects) and will be gracious to whom I will be gracious: and will shew mercy on whom I will shew mercy, chap. 33. and chap. 34. of Exodus: Moses early went up into Mount Sinai, as the Lord had commanded him: And the Lord descended in the Cloud, and stood with him there (it may be in that gracious presence which had often visited him in vision) and proclaimed the name of the Lord: The Lord God mercifull and gratious, long-suffering, and aboundant in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thoufands, forgiving iniquity and transgression, and sin according to the tenour of Covenant, for them t hat believe, and by repentance turn unto Gods

Grace offered, and refused by sinners.

207 love: But for sinners that continue as enemies, to Chap. 17. hate God, is the latter part of that Proclamation Numb. 2. of his righteous Name [That will by no means cleer: visiting the iniquity of the Fathers upon the

children, and upon the childrens children, unto the third and the fourth generation.

Not to forget the report of an Assembly Collegiat, inhabiting Mount sinai, whose chief head called Archimandrita this year in England, collecting Benevolencies toward his redemption; as at Oxford, at London: What may be the mind of the Lord herein, but mercy and justice: justice against iniquity, yet mercy to iniquity, when for faken by grace in love of God: and mercy to mercy, doing the lesson of our Lord Jesus Christ learned by our Apostle Paul in Paradise: how it is more blessed to give than to

receive; certainly bleffed both.

In loving kindness, righteousness and judgement I delight, faith the Lord. Of infinite eternall free good pleasure having at first put into the Creature (after his Image) and now again into the new Creature, a free good pleasure of Grace offered to finners, and refused, or soon ejected by such as take more pleasure in sins of unbelief, and uncharitableness and unrepentance; herein (as they freely profess, or profess not the Covenant of Christ) is a Copy legible, how Christ will profess, or not profels men in the book of the Lamb, his eternall, good pleasure, mercifully vouchfaseing to mens weak capacities, by what they (made after Gods Image) do find in their books of Laws, Ordinances, Counfells, Purposes, Decrees, and remembrances, helping to believe, infinitely more excellent in Gods-

all-fufficient

Chap. 17.

all sufficient, Essential inward, pure Act of everlasting Covenant; constantly free, freely perfect, perfectly constant, unchangable ordering outward, outward changables from everlasting to everlasting, as in time past, present or suture, revealed to them that will not, or will hear, see and love the good pleasure to, or for Babes made in Gods sight by the will of Christ, is in the word being of the middle voice, both of Active and Passive signification, Passive; in prime Donation of Grace from God: Active, in using or refusing that offered gift of Grace, by men taking pleasure to wink with their eyes, and so not seeing what they might see, thus hid in that good pleasure made in the sight of God. Math. 11, 26.

To thosequestions, Exchiel 18. 23. Have I any pleasure at all that the wicked should die (faith the Lord) of not that he should return from his waies and live? We dare not approve other answer, than what the Lord giveth himsels upon Oath, Exek. 33.11. I live faith the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the dea hof the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way, and live, turn ye, turn ye from your exist waies, for why will ye die Ohouse of Israels hath not God ordained his own Oath to be an end

of all strifes and controversies herein? Heb.6.

Object. Grace of Child-baptism how consistent with perseverance in grace; Since many baptized are wicked in life, and accursed in death; Heretiques or Apostates from the profession of the faith, into which they were baptized.

Accommod. At baptism is applied outwardly the Covenant of grace, as by the token or Seal thereof, and the words of promise, which after-

ward

ward upon advertisement inwardly presenteth an Chap. 17. offer of that promised grace in the understanding Numb. 2. to notice, consideration, and belief, as true, and thereupon an offer of the same grace in the will to love, as good from the truth and goodness of God, co-ordaining that outward and inward offer in consequence, orderly to follow one an other though with difference of Effects; according to different applies and circumstances, as seed by the way side devoured by fowls. So the word stollen by the Devill out of remembrances Or as feed among thornes, so the word among cares of the World and deceiveableness of riches. Or as seed in stony places springing up without deepness of earth, but when scorched with the Sun, withering away for want of root; so he that hearethit, but having no root in himself in the heat of persecution, often doth but as the good feed in good ground; the Saints rooted in faith and charity perish not, believing and loving the Covenant of salvation for ever.

A voluntary consent of their hearts by the graces of faith and love, when for defect thereof others destruction is voluntary neglecting, opposing, defeating somewhat in the way of salvation positive, theticall and federative, offered by the Counsell of Gods will in possibility toward saving them as (of that old word simplified pono, statuo) Acts 11. 23. Exproposito, ex consilio voluntatis, Ephes. 1. 11. Ex sadere, Heb. 8.8.) in rejecting the word of salvation they reject Christ, adelor, defeating Christ from being their Saviour, John 12. 48. Inke 7. 30. identical, the Pharifes defeated the Counsell of God against themselves, being not baptized: in rejecting baptism they rejected.

Voluntary confent of heart's required.

Chap. 17.

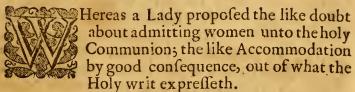
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rejected Christ from being a Saviour unto them, and their children; it was their fault; how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a Hen gathereth her Chickens under her wings, and yee would not, Luke 13. and chap. 19. He wept over the City, saying: If thou hadst known, even thou in this thy day; an imperfect speech to be understood by his teares: but of them who weep as he did for them, and their Children? Teares are melting prayers, spirituall dewes descending and ascending unto the Throne of Grace for young budds as well as old, unto his glory who dyed for them; and as the Sun shineth on them in his good pleasure, and blessed them with his own Mouth, and in his holy Name be they blessed with those that blesse them. Amen.

A

A Parallel about admitting women to the Chap. 17. boly communion, upon reason of consequence, unless an express be found in boly writ,

A PARALLEL.



1. Women were baptized (Ass 8.) New birth by water and Spirit at Baptism begetteth a new Creature, once born, yet needing to have that new life of the Spirit nourished often by Spiritual eating and drinking at the Supper of the Lord; The Lord in his Ordinances providing abundantly what is needfull.

2. Male and Female are one in Christ, Gal. 3.28.

3. Man and Wife are Heirs together of the Grace of life. 1 Pet. 3. 7. συνκληεόνομοι Coheirs of the living Grace. Therefore to communicate in that means of Grace, eating the Bread of life by faith, and drink-

ing into the same Spirit of Grace.

4. By the Holy Ghost there is commended the hidden Man in a Womans heart. 1 Pet. 3.4. 5 2198479, the very same word which is used. 1 Cor. 11. 28. and therefore under that word (in the name of Man) Woman also being comprehended, is there bid to examine her self, and so eat of that Bread and drink of that Cup.

1

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Chap. 17. Numb. 2. infants.

Vnoffensive Postulation in equity for

Hat as you cannot hinder Infants from crying (nor us from hearing their crie)
you will not denie their infirmity, which being granted, our beneficence is due by

Commandement of the Holy Ghost, & personle detemus, we owe this duty to bear the weakness of the Impotent, Rom. 15. ver. 1.10.12. where are alledged the very words of duty, which prescribed for the Gentiles in joyning with the Jews as then with their Infants in covenant with God, Deut. 32.43. 29.11. and also the words of Isaiah; His Prophecie for the fierce Creatures, hoping in the Child Jefus to agree with the fucking Babes; in this duty, proceed wee by the Grace of God accordingly to bear Infants in our arms of Charity to the Congregation at Baptism, with prayers of faith in his holy Covenant of Grace unto his Glory, that in his name God may bless them and us each in other, that their prayers may be heard for us in old aged extremities, when unable to speak for our selves; as they are now by the spirit of congratulation, Christ in his fore Father David, speaker of the universe made every creature hear and speak the praise of our Creator and the Lamb; A child exposed had on the swadling clouts Inscription to this effect.

God hath blift hitherto, that he may bless us still, You Christians, Christen me, and call me what you will,

Wheretothus.

Christ will the name which we will, praying without strife, That thou prosess Christ, and he thee, writ in the Book of life.

A Rescript of what was blotted out from Chap. 17. Chap. 1. Numb. 1. if with leave, humber bly representing at last about the blessing

bly representing at last about the blessing of Christ his Melchisedechian priest-bood, as unitive of the Father and the Child in Covenant at baptism, by the baptist a Levite in refined ministery, sent from Christ as God, to prepare for Christ a man, Angel of the Covenant.

A RESCRIPT.

Hosoever Melchisedec were; Our intent proceedeth.

the Jew, which is not likely; The Pedigree, Children and Father of Sem being expressly noted in holy writ, with his

beginning and end.

Gentile of Canaan; which is as unlikely, that any Canaanite was greater than Abraham; the preferment of the Jew being much every way (Rom. 3. Ee

Ho Melchisedec was, antient writers agree not;
Hieromreporteth others
opinions rather than his
own, Epist. 1, 26. ad
Evagrium; affirming it
to-be a most famous
question; Fame had not
then any certain desinition of Councill, or other
interpretation of sufficient publique Authority.
Some (out of their private phancie) darted at

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others, improperly, the name of herefies which was retorted upon them; as Epiphanius (on the 55 herefie) confuted those who took Melchisedec to be Sem; as divers of our Opponents and of Papists think. Now nhat these say for their excuse, by the Lan of liberty, diverse others may. For excase of the second opinion, thinking Melchisedec to le a Gentile-Canaanite, for which in Hierom are named, Hipolytus, Irenæus, Eusebius Cæsariens. Emissenus, Apollinarius, Eustachius Antioch. For the same is Theodoret, Quelt. 63. in Genes. and Pererius a Jesuit against other Jesuits; who not the Same liberty for the third op nio never expressedly condemned in the sence here; But in the sence of Personal union, imagi-

3. Or whether he were not a bodily person of Man, being neither Jew nor Gentile, nor a Perfonall Angell, but the Vision of Glory wherein God the Son spake as King of Righteousness and King of Peace; which by interpretation is fignified in that name (Melchisedec of Salem) best fitting the Son of God himself; the God of Glory called often Jehova, the Great and Glorious name allowed to no meer Creature, yet often to him who spake in that appearance of Man's face; not as if God the Son were personally united unto that appearance of Glory with Man's face; wherein he spake to foreshew his purpose of love in the appointed time, that he would come to be a true Man in our nature to fave us men.

4. At that Prophetique Visionall Præsentation in appearance of Man's face unto the face of those antient Fathere; But in the sence of Personal union, imaginated of an Angel; Or of the sence of those antient Fathers, he denied his face to be seen; So preparing them to believe, that he their Savi-

our would have the Nature of God, and the nature of man in one Person, but that the sace wherein he then appeared to the Patriarks was not his Personall sace, nor that Outward vision of Glory was Personally then united unto Him, but a presentation of His gratious Effects, in appearance of man.

The name of man ought to be writ in little letters, as not in the Greek Text. Heb. 7. 4. And that v. 15. to be called by Apposition, as in the same case, without any Note of the Genitive, as in two Substantives, meeting with importance of different things. So this third Exposition taketh the similitude to be Melchisedec, and Melchisedec to be the similitude in appearance of Man's faces And in manner of Angell-like mission; as fent about an heavenly good message (that name Angell, fignifying a Messenger) and by an Excellence, as in that vision of Glory named Angell of the Face, or Presence, presenting Christ Visionally

the Son of God. Here Chap. 17. the appearance of man Numb. 2. is not imagined hypostaticall as if Melchisedec mere a Person, but a Presence (so called Esaias. 63) Presence visionall, or visioned-Face of Aspe-Etable Maj stie, called the Glory, wherein the Son'of God, by Gracious Effects appeared to be present a Theo-phanie, preparing to expect him afterward in Theanthropie, That is, Incarnation of God to he one Person with man for the Redemption of mankind, by the blood of God, Act. chap. 20. 28. That Angell of the presence spake to Abraham, Gen. chap. 18. and chap. 12. why not chap. 14. as a Priest then in prevision as well as in the Revelstion chap.8.2. the golden Censer, Priestly Presentment, as well as the Golden Girdle ch.1.

Chap. 17. Num. 2.

man's yet saying, I was dead & am alive A & Q, the Beginning and the End; Christ his Glory, John 12. 41. Which Isaiah saw, chap. 6. chap. 63. all the dayes of old:receiving meat, Gen. chap: 18. As he presented Bread and Wine: both might alike be true, yet both in the presence of vision: God is Judge, his Word is Criticall, Heb. chap.4.12.regularly judicative: if this could be refuted, yet our Aime holdeth.

One like the son of to the holy Prophets view: The Revelation most expressingly described in a Priests Habiliment, to teach us the benefits of Christ his Office as Cur High-Priest. Our principall Hold whereof is in the Holy Ghost, expounding it in the Gospell of John chap. 12. 41. to be Christ's glory which Esay saw chap, 6. in the Temple, as it were to fullfill the Priestly function, presented in the beauty and glory of Holiness.

And whereof Esay celebrated the praises, chap. 63. 7, 9. according to all that the Lord hath bestowed on us, and the great goodnesse toward the

house of Israel, according to his mercies, and according to the multitude of his loving kindnesses.So He was their Saviour in all their affliction, He was afilicted, and the Angell of his presence (Angell of His Face) saved Them: in love, and in his pitty he redeemed Them, and He bare and carried them, all the dayes of old.] All the dayes of Old: Is not He fitly called the Beginning? Revel. 1. and John 1. In the Beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God; All things were made by Him: Man especially, created after his Similitude yet sinned, Pfal. 49. 12. In Hebrew Adam pernocted not in honor, continued not one night, but in the same day wherein he was

gen: 14. Hxod 29?

giben and takin by him

was formed: fin deformed him. The Son of God (in Chap. 17. appearance of Man walking in the Garden) reform-Numb. 2. ed man: informed him about the Sacrifice of the

Lamb: confirmed him by a promise of Conquest in the Seed of the woman, Genes. 3. thence to the promised blessing in Abraham Genes. 12. Thence to the bleffing at appearance of Melchifedec, thence to the bleffing in Abraham's Seed, Gen. 17. So to Gen. 22. by Oath repeated, Hebr. chap. 6. for bleffings according to the Order Melchisedec, Hebr. 7. 2. abiding a Priest continually like unto the Son of God downounts . ab-assimulate: As from his glory made glorious like him, the Son of God, not in his invifible Nature of God, but in his manhood, wherein his eternall Divinity dwelleth now in unity of the same person, which formerly spake in visioned similitude, or Ab-assimulation: His Divine Person ordering that similitude to foreshew what he would approve afterwards, as man in his Priestly Sanctification, exemplifying in that Act of receiving Tithe by the Melchisedechian Priest, so said, to abide continually: by vertue of God's Oath, according to the Order Melchisedec ; not of Melchisedec : but by Apposition, as the Similitude-Melchisedec; So the Order-Melchisedec; the Divine Providence ordering that Similitude-Melchisedec, to foreshew what Christ would in truth perform according to that Order of Priesthood unchanged, ingespalor, unchanging from one person to another, as it had, if Melchisedec had been another person: Christ is another Person, in respect of Maron, but not another Person in respect of Melchisedec: Aaron his Priesthood passed from man to man, by reason of mortaliChrist's Melchisedechian blessing.

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mortality: not so the Priesthood of Christ: who filleth in Truth what he predescribed in that Order-Melchisedec; The similitude of One in Prevision under the Old Testament, as since again in the Revelation; chap. 1. 1. designed Agitant thereof: One like the Son of Man, with a Bow in his hand conquering, and to conquer; yet in the name of the Word of God revealing his will therein about Small and Great: in his right aiming-Thunderbolts of righteous Judgments and Mercies: in truth of his Prophecies and promises to bless those that bless, and curse their adversaries that curse his Israel, his holy City, new Hierusalem descending from heaven, his habitation of Holiness and Righteousnes.

Alas beholding our frailties, as wormes-travellings 'twixt dust and ashes (but as archers in common speech allow one to be called the giver of aime) signifying what he seemeth to see, when the high-flying arrowes of Gods Judgments manifest them-

selves in event as at their marke.

2. Our humblest fidelity proceedeth in hope holding of Christ his Melchisedechian blessing as Unitive.

i. Unitive of Giver and Gift in Gods blessed acceptance: Abraham paying Tithes, was himself Tithed, and blessed by Melchisedec. Heb. 7.6. gratefully tithing: blessed y tithed: hollowed to blessed love of God.

2. Unitive of Father and Childrens Children, Tithed in the Loines of Abraham. Hebr. 7. 9. and so

partakes of his bleffing.

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3. Unitive of People and Minister in Abraham, Levi, blessed, as having charge over his brethren by Gods command. Melchisedechian Blessing United.

4. Unitive of Jewes and Gentiles, all Nations Chap. 17. blessed in Abraham. Gen. 18. 18. in Abraham's bless. Numb. 2. sing as a Father, having his Children also blessed while Infants: Therefore all Nations are to be blessed, as Fathers to have their Children blessed alfo.

5. Unitive of both Jewes and Gentiles, with Christ the Seed of Abraham, in whom all are to be bles-

fed.

6. Unitive of that bleffed Seed with God the Son, who by Oath mediated questrever, enterposed him-

self Mediatour. So God and Man in one.

7. Unitive of Melchisedec with that Mediatour, not in person or nature, but in mysterie: Melchisedec blessed abraham that had the promises in God's Name; who promised and sware to be Mediator for performance of the bleffing, that our hope might be in him as Priest, after the Order of Melchisedec for ever, in a continued perfective progresse of Melchisedechian mysterie, blessing from Christ the Son of God: promising and promised from the beginning

to the end, bleffing and bleffed for ever.

8. This Melchisedechian bleffing is Unitive of Christ, and his Ministers: in as much as it entreth within the vaile; that is, his flesh for Atonement in truth of what was figured at that Atonement by Heb. 6. presentation of Blood and Incense once a yeare before the mercy's Seat, to cleanse (from all fins) the people and their Ministers in all their services, that they might be pardoned, accepted and bleffed of the Lord, throughout the whole course of the year: So Christ after the vaile of his Flesh was rent by death, entring into the most Holy presence of Ff 2

Numb. 2.

Chap. 17. God made Atonement for all our finns by his continuall intercession with our prayers before the Throne of Grace; to procure all needfull bleffings on his People, through his meritorious bloodshed presented by his holy Melchisedechian Priesthood: applied by his Ministers in His Name, at his command, upon promise of Assistance, and Acceptance with bleffing as He ordained.

2. This Unitive Melchisedechian bleffing is by Cove nant: the New Covenant in Christ's Blood, the Blood of the everlasting Covenant, Hebr. 13. with prayer toward Perfection of duties acceptable to God through Jesus Christ: in every good work of blessed people in unitie with their bleffing Ministers. 2 Cor. 3. 6. Ministers of the new Covenant, bleffing into the Kingdom of Christ in righteousnesse and peace in the Holy Ghost: Rom. 14. Ministers of the Spirit of Peace, according to the Covenant of Peace in the .. Gospell of peace, glorious in the knowledg of the glory of God, in the face of Jesus Christ: 2 cor. 4. forgiving in the face or Person of Jesus: 2 Cor .. 2. In His Name, by his gift and power in the Holy Ghost; Go in peace, as my Father sent me, so send I you: whatsoever we bind on earth shall be bound in Heaven: All power is given unto me in Heaven and in Earth; Goe ye therefore Baptizing,

O Thou great Possessour of heaven and earth, blessed by Melchisedec, in Melchisedec blessing Abraham that had the promises, and both Covenants to him and his young Children, hast not thou established in him and his Isaac the new Covenant, Genesis chap. 17. 19. conteining the Gospell of grace. Rom. 4. 16. For an everlasting Covenant to blesse all

Nations

Nations and their young Children in thy holy name Chap. 17. at Baptism?

Numb. 2.

3. A Baptismall blessing to the baptized, and baptizing Ministers of thy Covenant for assurance of

Right to thy bleffing in Heaven and Earth.

Thus saith the Lord, which giveth the Sunfor a light by day, the Ordinances of the Moon and of the Stars for a light by night, Ier 31. 35. If you can break my Covenant of the day, anamy Covenant of the night, and that there should net be day and night in their season (then) may also my Covenant be broken with David and with the Levites, the Priests my Ministers, Jer. 33. Isaiah 61.6. Men shall. call you the Ministers of our God's I will also take of them. for Levites, saith the Lord: fir as the new Heavens and the new Earth |ball remain lefore me, faith the Lords. So shall your seea and your nane remain, Isaiah, Chap. 66. and Malachi, Chap. 2. Yee shall know that I have fent this Commandment unto you's That my Covenant might be with Levi , seith the Lord of Hists; and Chap. 2. He shall purifie the Sonnes of Levi, and purge them as Gold and Silver, that they may off r un o the Lord an Offering wi h. righteousness. I the Lord, I change not, therefore ye Sonns of Jacob are not consumed; Return unto me wherein yee haverobled me. Even this whole Nation in Tithes, this amidst Evangelicall duties, and Evangelicall' bleffings hath an Evangelicall Sense; If in coherence with the words precedent about. Christ his coming, and his forerunner John Baptist, and with the subsequent words about Iohn Babtist in the spirit of Elias turning the hearts of Children toward their Fathers; Iacob by name, who vowed to pay tithes. Gen. 28. (and when he returned according to his desirethe Lord minded him for the vow) excellently:

Ff 3. bleffed

Chap. 17.

blessed in imitation of Grandsather Abraham, blessed in his gratitude of tithing (400. years before the Law of Ceremonies, while he was under the Gospell preached (an example for his blessing to come upon all Nations, Gal. 3.) as the Gospell increased the reason of equity, 1 Ccr. 9. 12. by the excellencie

of spirituall administration.

Herein is ablessed reach, also for turning their hearts toward Forefather Noah, in whose time the Earth was accursed by the Flood-gates of Heaven; Which upon their turning shall abundantly bless them, not to fear, want, by paying Tith, in that third of Malachis Try mesaith the Lord of Hosts, if I will not open the windows of Heaven, and power you out a blessing, that there shall not be place enough to receive it; And all Nations shall call you blessed. And may not wise pious Nations freely joyn with them in the bleffing fo contrived, in Christ his Melchisedechian bleffing of Heavenly and Earthly fruits of righteousnes and peace, rather than adventure on the triall of fate divine destination (about the contratie curse to the Earth for no fruit unto God who made all, and preserved all to us, when others perished in the time of Noah: and promised a greater preservation by the water of Baptism. Here Iohn-Baptist, a Levite called Angel, that is, Messenger, and Christ called Angel of the Covenant, are so nearly joyned in the same message of the Covenant at Baptism, for all people to be bleffed, so returning with praise and thanks to bless the most high God, Possessor of Heaven and Earth [The giver of all fruits and bleffings, Heavenly and Earthly] who promised so to bless Abraham, and be his great reward himself, exceedhis

his imagination, in that his complaint of being Chap. 17. Childlessthere, not understanding the promise of Num. 2. the Son of God, to become his Son by taking Man's nature of Alrahams blessed seed to bless all Nations in Heavenly and Earthly bleffings; By covenant beginning in Abraham and his Isaack (by the promise to be born and blessed young) a Pattern for all Nations to be blessed with their young Children; By Covenant affuring them to be bleffed in him, that (by such unitive vertue of his blessing) all things in Heaven and Earth might work unto his Glory for their good in knowledge of his bleffed will, for right unto a sanctified use of all for learners, communicating in all good with Teachers, Gal. 6. 6. Faithfull, Praierfull, and thankfull, fruitreceiving, and Child Baptizing Ministers, approved herein to be the true bleffing Ministers of Christ, our Priest after the Order of Melchisedec for ever: In his unchangable Priesthood; Not passing from one to another sas it had, if Melchisedec hadbeen an other personall Man indeed, and not the likeness in Vision of Glory madelike unto the Son of God, Heb. 7. 3. apoppiuin the word signisieth Ab-assimulate, as from his Glory made glorious like him the Son of God, not in his unvisible Nature of God, but in his Manhood wherein his eternall Divinity dwelleth now in unity of the same person, which formerly spake in the vision of that similitude-Melchisedec) his visionall Assimulation as a Priest, is said to continue ever in truth of holy writ, so presenting him from the beginning yet without any notation of his beginning unto the end of the Revelation; yet without any fignification of his .

The Covenant of Baptisme.

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his ending, as sent by Christ to design the whole revelation: One like the Son of manin a white Garment with a golden girdle, and a golden censer offering incense of Prayers as a Priest, as a Prophet, having the book open in his hand, with a Crown of gold as King of Salem, where the Lord of Glory dwelleth on his Throne; in his holy Citty New-Jewalem: having the names of the twelve Apostles of the Lamb in her soundation distinguished by 12 Gates, their Administrations of Baptism, as 12 Gates, for entrance of the 12 Tribes, and of the Nations by right of Covenant in the same blessing with them to be continuate by Ministers ordained with laying on of the Apostles hands.

These are the Fundamentall Principles Apple, principii, principatus; Beginning or Principallity, laid by the word of God on Christ for entrance into his Kingdom, not to be deseated upon pretence of laying a new, but to be built upon toward perfection by this Melchisedechian Preisthood of Christ, in hope of his blessing, as an Anchor sure and stedsast in the deep waters of Gods mercifull promise and Oath, against all contrary waves and winds of op-

position destructive, under shew of amends.

Take heed of that dreadfull curse of desertion, for deserting that good word of God, formerly blessing the Baptized in his Name, and the anger of God hardning toward sinall impossibility there threatned; rather as there advised Be followers of blessed forestathers, with saith and patience resting in Gods Covenant to them and their young Infants, not laying again the foundation of Baptismes, and of laying on of hands, but proceeding upon the

former in ultra-expectative grace toward all the Benedictive, Unitive, Perfective duties hereof. Which God grant in Christ the Amen, our Amen: Amen.

If this upon examination must be blotted out againe: may here succeed another briefe advertise preservative, against the danger of supposititious new light, whereby some unseemingly seeme above the ordinances of Christ, to be Godded: higher than Adam's affectation to be like God, against the written Word of God, which is able in humility to make wise unto salvation: thus.

1. Our union with God is by way of everlasting Covenant, requiring divers works on our parts. In the Epistle to the Hebr. chap. 13. verse 20, 21.

2. Those divers works are performed by divers gifts of Gods manifold Graces, 1 Cor. 12.

verse 4.

3. The Holy Ghost, who is infinite without meafure, divideth those gifts to men severally by mea-

sure 1 Cor. 12. verse 11. Rom. 12. verse 3. 6.

4. The Receivers of those gifts are made new creatures, that all glory may be to the Creator. 2 Cor. 5. verse 17. yet new borne by the Spirit, and water at Baptism, that holy Church motherhood may not be contemned.

5. The New Creatures are new Men, created after God in Righteousness and true holiness, after the Image of Christ, Rom. 8. verse 29. Ephes. 4. verse 24.

6. This Image of Christ appeareth in us, as in a

Looking-glass, 2 Cor. 3. verse 18.

7. This appearance of Christ's face in the Spirit, G g is

is by reflection from the written Word of God, as a Prime Looking-glass to direct our outward works

also: James chap. 1. verse 23, 24, 25.

8. That Looking-glass of the written Word is to be held and observed, to the end through all the mystery of Godliness foretold by Christ; Revel. 1. verse 19. Writ the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter. Revel. 14.13. Write, Saith the spirit. Marke the Protestant Doctrine for rest unto the dead, written by the Spirit on purpose, for the fall of Babylon, in the Roman mysterie, which thrived with the contrary doctrine of Un-rest in Purgatory. Rev. 19. verse 9. Write, Blessed are they which are called to the marriage-supper of the Lamb. Marke how the Spirit warranteth that Ordinance of the Lord's Supper, to continue after the destruction of Rome, described in the former words, Rev. 18. 21. verse 5. He that sat upon the Throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, write; marke, Holy writ to be our Ruler after all mad new by the Reformation.

9. Created gifts continue in mans soule after death; his understanding perfected with the light of glory to know God: 1 Cor. 13. verse 12.

Now I know in part, but then shall I know; even as also I am known, seeing sace to face: his will perfected in charity loving God. 1 Cor. 13. verse 8. Charitie

never faileth.

10. The body reviveth at the resurrection. John 20. verse 27, 28. Reach hither thy singer; Behold my hands: and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side, be not faithlesse, but believing. Thomas answered, and said, My Lord, and my God. Jesus saith unto him, because

vese 39 Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I my self: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not slesh and bones; as you see me have. And when he had thus spoken, he shewed him his hands and his feet: And He did eat a piece of broiled sish; and of an hony combe before them. As 1. The Apostles beheld him ascending while they looked stedsastly toward heaven: from whence also we look for the Saviour, or Lord Jesus, who shall change our vile body, that it may be fassioned like unto his glorious body: Phil. 3. ver. 21. Rom. 8. ver. 11 If the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you: he that raised up Christ from the dead, shall also quicken your mortall bodyes, be-

cause of his spirit dwelling in you.

Thus the true Spirit helpeth the Resurrection of the body, which the false spirit disbelieveth, out of an imagination of a present enjoyment, which cannot be the present resurrection of the just finally promised by Christ. Lnke 20. verse 35,36. Where they at the Resurrection of the dead, neither marry, nor are given in marriage. Neither can they dye any more. Therfore these Opinionists who do marry, and shall dye, have not attained the Resurrection intended by Christ: and if they believe it not, it is to be feared, they shall not attaine it; God grant unto them, and us all needfull graces 3 that we may believe, and enjoy the Salvation of our Souls and bodyes, as handyworks of God in his children, members of Christ, and Temples of the Holy Ghost. i Cor. 6. verse 15.19. Know yee not, that your bodyes are the Temples of the Holy Ghost in you which you have of God : and yee are not your own, for yee are bought with a price: Therefore glorify

glorify God in your body and Spirit, which are of God: not God.

Christ in mercy to the glory of his Almighty Spirit, frame us aright, against the spirits of untruth and blasphemy, to love him the way the truth and our life everlasting.

Errata:

Tisle pag.r.bow ¶. p.5, l.20.r.yec.p.33.r. I Cor. 15.55. p.53.l.6.r.efficatious graced l.11.r.winne. p.54.l 5.r.at baptifine. 'p.84.l.8.r.a certaine word. p.96.l.11.r.thae marke. p. 121.r.brafen. p.128.tile.for Elizabeth r.Ezckiel. p. 126.l. 31. at his command. r. fo ready for affiftance of their obedieat dury that his heavenly quick word faith, command ye me. Efa. 45. 11. p. 131.l.5.r.40.p.138.l. 10. for to r. the devils. pe 163.l.31.r. w. p.164.l. laft for be ftip. r.ftipulat p. 169.l.13. r. Iohn 3.5. p. 173.l. 2 r. differed.p. '182.l. 13. e. to and from whom. l. 32.again Annakia. p. 184.l. 10-r. w. y. a. 25. y. p. 173.l. 2. r. differed.p. '182.l. 13. e. to and from whom. l. 32.again Annakia. p. 184.l. 10-r. w. y. a. 25. y. p. 187.l.8-r. Iohn Baptift day.p. 190.l. 8. r. different. p. 196.l. laft. in his holy comm, and his holy covenant. Efa. 24. 5. the everlafting covenant broken by some possibly concerned until the breach p. 213.l. 20.r. are now. yet fince by. p. 216.in marg. l. 9. r. of old. was it as when the nobles of Israel faw God, and did eate and drink, Exod, 24. 11. he 1666iving meat., Gen. 18. as cap. 14.he preferented bread and wine.

FINIS.







